

THE TIMES
Tomorrow

Cheers...
Pat Butcher and David Miller on the World Athletics Championships... down the hatch... Best buys below decks in the world of sailing... New words... A newly-discovered story by Daisy Ashford on the Pope's visit to Britain... for old... Roy Strong complains about too many repeats on Radio 4... In quires... The 276th year of the Three Choirs Festival in Gloucester Cathedral... and places... The pleasures of the Algarve

Summit in Mexico for Reagan

A summit meeting between President Reagan and President de la Madrid of Mexico this weekend will focus on the Central American crisis. Mexico may turn out to have more in common with Washington's policies towards the region than previous statements have suggested. Page 4

Kidnap victim tells his story

A wealthy Irish solicitor was recovering at his home after being kidnapped by gunmen and tied to a tree on a disused military range for 24 hours. He told police he dissuaded the kidnappers from taking his son. Page 3

Taiwan fraud

The gang said to have swindled Taiwanese factories out of £16m worth of goods with worthless cheques is trying to beat a court order preventing the unloading of the imports. Page 2

Sub salvaged

The Soviet Union has secretly salvaged a nuclear-powered submarine which sank in the North Pacific in June, partly to prevent the US from recovering it, according to American intelligence. Page 4

Shagari priority

President Shagari of Nigeria, fresh from his landslide victory, said his new administration would give priority to the economy and agriculture. Page 4

BP sale boost

Higher-than-expected half year earnings of £1.33bn from Shell have pushed up oil share prices, smoothing the way for an early sale of British Petroleum shares by the Government. Page 13

Recovery signs

First-half profit figures for two of Britain's big engineering groups reflected signs of recovery. GKN and Nettlefolds increased profits from £3.9m to £6.2m. Page 13

Fewer grouse

The grouse season is expected to have a poor start, because of bird diseases and a wet spring but it should improve next month. Page 3

Rabies fine

A West German holidaymaker was fined £400 under anti-rabies regulations for bringing a guinea-pig into Britain. Page 3

Baby rescued

A newborn baby boy in a plastic bag was nearly thrown into a rubbish bin at Lake Isle of Wight, but was discovered when he whimpered and is recovering in hospital. Page 3

Gower century

David Gower scored 108 for England yesterday in their first innings of 272 for five on the opening day of the third Test match against New Zealand at Lord's. Page 18

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Letters: On "alternative medicine", from Professor P. N. Campbell, and Mr I. D. Watson; the elderly, from Mr E. McCarra, and Mr D. Hobman and others.

Leading articles: Lebanon; research councils; Nordic Council. Features pages 6, 7, 8. How Britain could go hungry; a medieval pageant on the moon; why we must stand by Belize. Opening up Heaven's Gate; a film flop makes a comeback. The drug corridor; Friday Page looks at the way cut price drugs enter Britain.

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BL dismisses 13 'infiltrators' at Cowley car plant

By Barrie Clement and Clifford Webb

British Leyland yesterday dismissed 13 alleged political activists said to have lied in job applications in order to infiltrate the shop floor at the company's Cowley assembly plant in Oxfordshire.

The six women and seven men, who plan to appeal today against the decision, and thought by the company to be Trotskyists belonging to the International Marxist Group. It is believed they were informed by fellow workers on the assembly lines of the new Maestro car, who noticed their unusually good knowledge of union affairs.

The company checked the workers' applications forms and found 13 of them contained information regarded as deliberately inaccurate. The 13 were originally suspended under the company's disciplinary procedure.

A further six workers suspected of belonging to the same group are understood still to be working at the plant. Their application forms were in order and the company is proceeding on the basis that only those who gave false information are guilty of breaching company rules. One more alleged activist who is off work because of illness is to face disciplinary procedure.

BL investigators are understood to have been alert for some time to the activities of a group of Marxists intent on working their way into important trade union positions on the shop floor at Cowley.

According to shop stewards, the newcomers joined one of the factory's branches of the Transport and General Workers' Union, attended meetings and became involved in branch affairs. Their immediate interest is, and knowledge of union matters led to speculation that they belonged to an ultra-left wing group trying to infiltrate the local union. Six of them became shop stewards.

One steward said: "Some of these people have been bragging about the way they got into the factory. All the signs point to someone putting the finger on them and telling management."

The transport union recently asked for one newly elected shop steward to be officially recognized by the company - requests which normally lead to a cursory examination of personal records.

Mr David Buckle, the union's district secretary, said: "I cannot imagine that a request for credentials would prompt an investigation as expensive as the one now going on".

The alleged activists had submitted their forms in May last year before starting work later in the year. They were among 1,000 workers required to produce the Maestro car.

BL investigators are understood to have been alert for some time to the activities of a group of Marxists intent on working their way into important trade union positions on the shop floor at Cowley.

Mr Buckle said earlier: "With unemployment at its present level it is not surprising that in their desperation to find work, people give false information."

Mr Roy Hattersley, MP, will next week appeal direct to the rank and file membership of the Labour movement in his attempt to win the leadership of the Labour Party.

In a speech at Leicester on Monday, he is likely to direct his words especially to the members of unions who have been asked to ballot for their choice among the various candidates for leader and deputy leader. Mr Hattersley, like his main rival, Neil Kinnock, is seeking election to either post.

In his speech, Mr Hattersley may be expected to point out that at the general election Labour had urged control on prices, dividends and profits but had not said much about how those profits should be invested.

Mr Hattersley has long been a supporter of a national minimum wage and some in his camp believe that the party's commitment to it in the manifesto was weaker than it might have been, partly because the biggest union, the Transport and General Workers' Union, is opposed to it because it is against any incomes policy.

His appeal to the union membership is seen by his supporters as crucial to his campaign.

A further development in the Labour leadership campaign yesterday was a letter from Mr Neil Kinnock to *Labour Weekly*, published by the Labour Party, strongly supporting consultation of the rank and file membership of constituency Labour parties in arriving at a decision on whom to support in the leadership elections.

He complains in the letter that hints in the Press that he was opposed to a wider franchise had never been backed by evidence.

General Workers' Union and the National Union of Seamen, the "dump ship", Atlantic Fisher has been lying empty at Barrow.

In a letter to *The Times* last Thursday, Mr Jim Slater, the NUS general secretary, argued that the authority and the Government had been seeking to act against the wishes of the London Dumping Convention, a UN-sponsored agency, which regulates the disposal at sea of any material it regards as potentially harmful.

Lord Miles said last night that he was distressed at the decision and criticized the Corporation of the City of London for not providing more help. He said that over the whole period the corporation had given an average of £5,000 a year, ranging from £1,000 at the beginning to £2,000.

Lord Miles said he still had hopes that the theatre might be saved but he believed his companion with the Mermaid had ended.

"There is no room for my wife and me now. The productions we bring in and there is no creative energy left. It is not the sort of theatre I would want to continue in."

The Mermaid's reopening production, *Eastward Ho!*, proved a disaster and lost £80,000, while an appeal for £10,000 in one production and cut their salaries to £350,000.

Recently the theatre has had to bring in productions, including *Children of a Lesser God*, and *Trafalgar Tanzi*. These succeeded in keeping the theatre open after a period of "darkness" but have made little impact on its deficit.

Lord Miles and his wife invested £10,000 in one production and cut their salaries to £350,000.

He is at present appearing at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre,



Honoured for bravery: Mr Peter Gurney (top) and the late Mr Kenneth Howorth.

Bomb disposal men get top award

By Stewart Tander

A Scotland Yard explosives expert who defused a Provisional IRA bomb in London despite the knowledge that a similar device had killed a colleague minutes before is today awarded a bar to the George Medal he already holds.

Mr Peter Gurney, aged 52, is named in a list of civil gallantry awards published in the *London Gazette*.

The colleague who died, Mr Kenneth Howorth, is awarded a George Medal posthumously.

The list also includes the award of a George Medal to Constable David Browning of the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

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Entertainment ousts religion on ITV

By David Hewson

Serious Sunday night religious programmes on independent television are to make way for light entertainment in order to enable the commercial channel to compete more evenly with the BBC. The move has incensed many church officials.

In three weeks the programme slot between 6 and 6.30pm, frequently occupied by CRAC's *Credo*, will be moved to 2pm on Sundays for an experimental period of a year. The Sunday evening hymn programme at 6.45pm will be unaffected.

The Rev Donald Reeves, Rector of St James's, Piccadilly, who recently retired from the BBC, said: "There seems to be an enormous loss of confidence among religious broadcasters at the moment. The fact that they cannot make programmes which will stand up to Arthur Negus I find really distressing."

Afzal Gul, the former Pakistani test cricketer, said yesterday he had applied for political asylum in Britain because he faced a death sentence if he returned home.

Pakistan's military Government said last month that two Sam 7 ground-to-air missiles were found in his home in Lahore and accused him of being a member of the clandestine Al-Zulfiqar guerrilla group.

Mr Gul, aged 37, a lawyer who played six tests for Pakistan between 1963 and 1971, was in Britain when the Government reported finding the arms cache.

He told a press conference in London that if any missiles were found at his home they were planted there by Government agents. "It is an attempt to frame me." He had never been connected with Al-Zulfiqar.

He said the Zia regime was using fabricated charges to victimize his family.

Continued on back page, col 1

Druze hand over ministers in Jumblatt castle

From Robert Frisk, Beirut

President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon relieved that his ministers had been released from the hands of Druze gunmen yesterday at the price of his credibility and a ceasefire which is unlikely to last more than 24 hours.

After a morning of fierce battles around the capital, the Druze militias who had abducted the three men on Wednesday night surrendered them to the Israeli Army in the hallway of Mr Walid Jumblatt's stone castle in the Chouf mountains in conditions of near famine.

There are those in Lebanon who are kidnapped and never live to tell the tale. And there are those who talk long and hard to their heavily-armed captors and then insist that they had never been kidnapped at all.

A third of President Gemayel's Cabinet clearly fell into the second category. Indeed, the three ministers insisted that they had merely been guests at the gloomy castle of Moukhara.

Their Druze captors, who had earlier demanded the resignation of Mr Gemayel's entire Government - including his secret service chief - in return for the ministers, then claimed that nothing was further from their minds.

The destruction of the Gemayel Government was merely the condition that would have to be met if the Druze were to stop bombing Beirut airport with missiles. Mr Jumblatt

Continued on back page, col 3

Chad admits fall of Faya-Largeau

By John Winder

Ndjamena (AP, AFP) - The Chad Government of President Hissene Habré yesterday admitted that the strategic northern outpost of Faya-Largeau had fallen to Libyan troops and rebels backed by waves of jet bombers, Soviet-supplied heavy artillery and T-62 tanks.

The Western military sources, with access to satellite reconnaissance information from government troops scattered into the surrounding palm grove and desert after the collapse of all resistance. The American-supplied Redeye surface-to-air missiles were taken out Faya-Largeau before it was lost.

During the ill-matched battle, other government troops recaptured the outpost of Oum Chalouba, 200 miles further west, from forces loyal to former President Goukouni Oueddei.

A source in Ndjamena said Libyan fighter-bombers pursued the Government forces had set up defensive positions 4.5 miles west and 11 miles east of the settlement, which controls all routes from Libya to the capital, Ndjamena.

The Western sources, insisting on anonymity, said the bulk of Mr Habré's estimated 5,000-man Army had been isolated in the outpost 500 miles north of Ndjamena almost since it was captured from Libyan-supported rebels on July 30.

A Chadian Embassy spokesman

Continued on back page, col 6

There's something new in the air!

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Final curtain: Lord Miles outside the refurbished Mermaid Theatre.

The Mermaid's reopening production, *Eastward Ho!*, proved a disaster and lost £80,000, while an appeal for £10,000 in one production and cut their salaries to £350,000.

Recently the theatre has had to bring in productions, including *Children of a Lesser God*, and *Trafalgar Tanzi*. These succeeded in keeping the theatre open after a period of "darkness" but have made little impact on its deficit.

Lord Miles and his wife invested £10,000 in one production and cut their salaries to £350,000.

He is at present appearing at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre,

Sharp rise in rescues at seaside

Coastguards between Sussex and north Cornwall have reported a 33 per cent rise in rescue incidents this summer. More holidaymakers and the growing popularity of windsurfing were blamed yesterday.

The figures relate to the period since June 1 in the Falmouth search and rescue region, which stretches from Selsey Bill, near Chichester, to Tintagel.

As strong offshore winds continued to blow, holidaymakers on the South coast were warned yesterday not to use inflatables in the sea. Two people have drowned.

The body of Nigel Ellis, aged 53, of North Harrow, Middlesex, was recovered yesterday from the sea off Eastbourne.

Shortly afterwards the alarm was raised for Neil Lawrence, aged 10, of Aylesbury, who was on an airbed off Littlehampton, Sussex. An inshore rescue boat later recovered his body.

Police in Scotland warned tourists yesterday of the dangers of swimming in lochs, as a search went on for a youth seen to disappear below the surface of Loch Lomond.

Dismissal threat to 200 workers

Strikers supporting 400 dismissed electricians at Shell/Essso's £700m petrochemical complex at Mossmorran, in Fife, were told in a management letter yesterday that they will be dismissed unless normal working is resumed.

The 400 workers, employed by Matthew Hall Engineering on Shell's gas liquids fractionation plant were dismissed on Wednesday after nine days of unofficial strike over working conditions and 200 more employed by Luminus at the site came out in support.

Policing warning to Brittan

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, was given a warning yesterday by Labour councillors representing metropolitan areas that the policing of large areas would be harmed by the proposed abolition of metropolitan counties.

A delegation to the Home Office from the Association of Metropolitan Authorities demanded an independent study before the Government abolishes the councils.

Protest over council homes

The left-wing labour administration in Liverpool was criticized yesterday by traditional Labour voters in the city over its policy of building 2,000 homes to rent, some of them in private housing schemes.

People who bought their homes on the Walton Hall Park Estate protested at housing committee meeting over a decision to build 67 council houses next door.

17,500 pirated videos seized

More than 17,500 illegal video tapes, including 200 master copies, have been seized this year by investigators from the Federation Against Copy-right Theft (FACT).

Several important criminal actions are pending in England and Scotland, according to Mr Peter Duffy, FACT's director of investigations. They are the result of collaboration between FACT, the police and local authority trading standards departments.

Pigeon race ban

Pigeon racing has been banned for at least three weeks in South Wales after an outbreak of poultry disease. Three cases of paroxysm disease have been reported in pigeons in Llanelli, Dyfed.

M1 tanker blaze

Firemen, battling for an hour yesterday, prevented a big explosion on the M1, near Luton, Bedfordshire after a tanker fully laden with 26,000 gallons of petrol burst into flames.

Chinese gang finds way to beat shipping injunction

By John Lawless

A Chinese gang alleged to long injunction, granted by Mr Justice Popplewell in the Queen's Bench Division of the Commercial Court of the High Court on Wednesday, which is stopping the gang from collecting them.

Mr Raveen Arora, the Taiwanese manufacturer representative who was granted the injunction, yesterday returned to Taiwan.

"It now appears that they are trying to sell off the shipping documents to British retailers," Mr Eric Ellen, director of the London-based International Maritime Bureau, said. The bureau is co-ordinating the investigation into the alleged fraud.

"We now know that more than one Chinese man is trying to claim the containers in Britain, although we do not know how many," Mr Ellen said.

"We have had no end of calls as a result of *The Times* story. It is clear that they are now trying to off-load goods by selling the documents, and the message to British shipkeepers must be 'Beware the bargain,'" he said.

Mr Ellen, formerly Chief Constable of the Port of London Authority police, has sent a report to the Director of Public Prosecutions. The legal situation is extremely complicated.

Under British law, the holder of the shipping documents (bills of lading) are the legal holders of the goods. It is only the week-

Man tried to claim five consignments

By a Staff Reporter

As officials of the international Maritime Bureau were telephoning shipping lines from their offices in Barking, east London, to warn them not to hand over containers of unpaid-for goods from Taiwan, the man said to have masterminded the alleged fraud was calling at a docks office near by, trying to claim five loads.

Mr Raveen Arora, the representative of Taiwanese factory-owners, said yesterday: "He was trying to pick up shipments of toy garments and telephones worth \$100,000."

The director of the Scandinavian shipping line, who met the Chinese man named in Wednesday's High Court injunction, was Mr Graham Johnson. The incident happened about one hour after Sandwhich had been given notice of the injunction.

"I think it was the first inkling he had that he could not take possession of the consignments," Mr Johnson said yesterday. "He was a gentleman from the Far East, although I could

Long dispute predicted over day trips

By Nicholas Timmins

Britain's dispute with France over 60-hour no-passport excursions is likely to take months rather than weeks to resolve after this week's meeting between French and British officials.

The Home Office said yesterday it had received no reports of day trippers being turned back in the week since the dispute surfaced. So far more than 100 visitors, mainly British, have been turned back.

British hopes the French will let the issue lie until the 1971 memorandum of understanding covering the visits is redrawn.

The arrangement is available only to British passport holders.

The French say sample checks on those carrying excursion cards will continue.

The National Association of Community Relations Councils said yesterday: "Had the same treatment been meted out to white Britons, the ensuing diplomatic uproar would have been deafening. In the event the diplomatic representations have been more akin to a whisper."

Radio station withdraws pay rise offer

By David Hewson

A 5 to 6 per cent wage increase offered to staff at the London commercial news radio station LBC has been withdrawn because of the company's poor financial performance. The management has also outlined plans to make the station's output more popular.

LBC sells itself as London's all-news station, but recent audience figures have been disappointing. The company is expected to make a pretax profit of £70,000 this year, 1.2 per cent of turnover.

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It is planned to replace the midday to 7 pm news programme with an extended morning phone-in and a music and chat show from 1 pm to 5 pm. News would be broadcast from 5 pm to 7 pm.

LBC's franchise was renewed last year.

Running girl clue in murder hunt

From Arthur Ousman, Leicester

Leicestershire police said yesterday that a motorist may have seen Caroline Hogg, aged five, trying to run away from her killer the day after she was abducted from near her Edington home.

The motorist, from Derbyshire, who has not been named, came forward after seeing an artist's impression of a man issued last week by Lothian and Borders police. However, he said that the man was not wearing glasses.

The incident occurred at a lay-by on the A444 at Twycross, Leicestershire, on July 9. The girl's body was discovered at the next lay-by, about half a mile south on July 12.

The police said that the motorist thought it appeared that the girl was trying to run away from the man. He drove on because he believed it was a father and daughter playing tag.

Twopenny toll battle lost by ex-paratrooper



Thames barrier: Mr Michael Cox, aged 44, in front of the Thames bridge which he owns in Oxfordshire and which has become a bridge too dear. Mr Cox, a former paratrooper, who bought the bridge for £100,000 in 1981 with his wife Stella, has been refused permission by the Secretary of State for Transport to raise the toll charge from 2p to 10p after a public inquiry (Michael Hornsby writes).

The cost of crossing the picturesque Swinford Bridge on the B4044 road there remains for motorists what it was

for the drivers of horse-drawn vehicles when the bridge was built in 1767 by the fourth Earl of Abingdon. That could spell ruin for Mr Cox, who claims that his present takings leave him without measurable profit and facing a maintenance bill of £350,000. But Mr Cox, who employs two assistants to help him collect the toll, said yesterday: "I have lost a battle and am licking my wounds but I am not going to relinquish the ownership."

The troubled waters under his stone

bridge were stirred earlier this year when Mr Cox imposed a 10p charge. But regular users pointed out that under the 1767 Act which allowed the bridge to be built, toll fees cannot be increased without the consent of Parliament.

Mr Peter Floyd, county solicitor for Oxfordshire county council, which led the objection to the toll increase, said: "Our objection was that the increase was not necessary and our own survey shows that only £81,000 is needed."

Photograph: Michael Ward

Protection for press criticized

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Twelve prisoners from Albany top security prison on the Isle of Wight have been found guilty of mutiny by the jail's board of visitors.

They are among 15 prisoners to be punished for offences committed during a riot in May. Another four were found not guilty of mutiny.

Six prisoners at Wormwood Scrubs prison, London, have been found guilty of creating a disturbance there in June.

Thirty-one prisoners at Albany were charged with mutiny. Two panels from the Albany Board of Visitors, with two magistrates on each, have been touring prisons to which Albany's alleged offenders have been sent. Some remain in Albany; the others have gone to Winchester, Manchester, Walsworth, Wormwood Scrubs and Birmingham.

Many members of boards are also unhappy about serious cases. Mr Edwin Lever, vice-chairman of the Association of Members of Boards of Visitors, said: "These are matters which should be dealt with by an open court."

Mr Lever said that if a serious case might result in a man having to spend an extra year in prison, he should have a professional lawyer to defend him. Critics of the present system quote a recommendation by the European Commission of Human Rights that prisons should be represented legally. The issue has been referred to the European Court for a ruling.

Mr Lever said that if a special treatment for journalists would violate a fundamental element in the philosophy of the British Press and journalists.

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special treatment for journalists would violate a fundamental element in the philosophy of the British Press and journalists.

The hotel is not commercially viable in its present form, Mr Peter Tyne, managing director of its owners, Glencairn Hotels, said.

GLC joins fight over green belt

By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

The Labour-controlled Greater London Council yesterday joined up with the solidly Conservative Home Counties to prevent the Government eroding the green belt around London in the interests of private house-builders.

Mr George Nicholson, chairman of the GLC planning committee, complained of "an insidious tie-up" between the house-builders and the Government.

"Saving the green belt is not just of concern to those lucky enough to live in the leafy suburbs. It is also vital to people in inner London who rely on such countryside near by for a welcome break from the pressures of inner city life."

Mr Nicholson, who identified himself as the only socialist on the Standing Conference of South East Planning Authorities, referred to the GLC's planning committee, which had

promised a bipartisan approach to the green belt issue.

Mr Nicholson told a press conference: "We circulated extracts from articles in *The Times* of 1939 praising the role of the London County Council in protecting the greenery around the capital.

"It is the envy of many less fortunate sprawling world cities. Whatever the Government's assurances, once you start making exceptions, they can so easily become the rule and open the door for a flood of development."

Housing benefit review demanded by Labour

By John Winder

An urgent review in to how the new housing benefit scheme could be simplified was demanded last night by Mr Brynmor John, MP, Labour spokesman on social security.

He said: "People have come from far and near, and from all walks of life, to share in the grief of Thomas's tragic and unwaranted death that weighs so heavily on us all."

After the funeral, one of the area's biggest since the hunger strike processions three years ago, the crowd trudged through the litter-strewn streets of Turf Lodge, which has experienced rioting and fire-bombing since Mr Reilly's death.

Mr John said that local council staffs were working at full capacity but finding the task beyond them. For the staff and claimants the new scheme had

introduced an enormous blunder.

Now the Department of Health and Social Security offices notify local authorities of entitlement and arrange for rent and rate rebates from local authorities and supplementary benefit, including a housing allowance, and paid their own rent

and rates.

It is that area which has given rise to most problems. One difficulty has been that many tenants have made claims, although it is believed that many would have been qualified under the old scheme.

The scheme was introduced

fully in April and about 80 per cent of local authorities have completed the transfer, so that 95 per cent of claimants receive benefit under the new scheme.

Mr Rhodes Boyson, Minister for Social Security, has defended the scheme and suggested that some problems when transferring 7,000,000 households were inevitable.

Transitional arrangements to continue supplementary benefit

Steel veto attacked by London Liberals

One of the strongest of the Liberal organizations, the London region, has decided to back moves at the annual Liberal Assembly next month to get rid of the leader of the party's veto on the contents of election manifestos.

The region's backing for a motion by the Young Liberals and Daventry local association, which has the support of other constituencies, was carried by such a large majority at the regional annual meeting that no count was required.

Officials of the London Liberals and all backers of the move emphasize that it is not an "anti-Steel" motion.

Even so, Mr David Steel is known to be deeply opposed to any such proposal and there is little doubt that many Liberals will be hard to convince that it is not directed against Mr Steel if he opposed it at the assembly in Harrogate.

Some supporters of the move take the line that the leader is a member of the standing committee which draws up the manifesto and if he is opposed to any item in it, then it has little chance of featuring in the final draft.

Proponents of the move say that it will strengthen the Leader's position, because he would not then be saddled with sole blame for any manifesto item which proved unpopular with a section of the party.

Mr Colin Darracott, chairman of the London Liberals, said: "This is a point of principle, not an anti-leader, still less an anti-Steel move. This is a grass-roots party."

The Liberal Party did not have its own manifesto at the last election, but fought on a joint programme agreed by a committee of Liberals and Social Democrats. Mr Steel did not have a veto on that. The London region embraces 84 constituencies.

The London Liberal Region has also decided to support the preservation of the Greater London Council.

The region hopes that Mr Ken Livingston, Labour leader of the GLC, and Mr Alan Greenspan, leader of the Conservatives on the council, may visit the "fringe" of the Liberal Assembly to support moves to save the council, although there is some doubt about Conservative leader accepting the invitation.

£40m plan to rebuild hotel

A £40m plan to rebuild the four-star North British Hotel in Edinburgh was announced yesterday.

The hotel is not commercially viable in its present form, Mr Peter Tyne, managing director of its owners, Glencairn Hotels, said.

The group, set up by the British Executive of the International Press Institute, has sent its comments on "undesirable aspects" of the Government's Police and Criminal Evidence Bill to Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary.

The Bill, which aroused considerable controversy in the last Parliament, and is to be reintroduced, proposes protecting journalists against seizure of confidential information.

Irish solicitor describes 25-hour ordeal tied to a tree by kidnappers

From Richard Ford, Enniskerry, co Wicklow

A wealthy solicitor was recovering at his home in the co Wicklow hills yesterday after being kidnapped for 25 hours and tied to a tree on a disused military range.

He was found early yesterday after a telephone call to his home. A huge police operation while he was missing had involved a press blackout, monitoring of telephone calls and surveillance of his 40-acre estate. An £150,000 ransom had been demanded.

Mr William Somerville, aged 45, a Protestant partner in one of Dublin's leading firms of solicitors, was taken from his home at Enniskerry after persuading the masked gunmen not to take his eldest son James, aged 14, as a hostage, which had been their original intention.

He described yesterday how he was driven away with a bag over his head on Tuesday night by a gunman wearing camouflage, a stocking mask and bandolier.

He was first driven to woods near by and was then taken to the military range, five miles from his home, where his arms and legs were tied before he was bound to the tree.

He received no food during his ordeal and said that he was watched by people in the woods.

Mr Somerville said that his worst moments were during the second night. "I was just cold and very tired. I did not know what was happening and I was thinking about other things," he said.

Mrs Manon Somerville said that she had feared for her husband's life because one of

Equality urged for male prostitutes

Homosexuals, importuning should no longer be punishable by imprisonment, the criminal law committee of the Law Society has recommended.

Women are no longer imprisoned for soliciting, and the committee urges in a report published yesterday that homosexual and heterosexual prostitutes should be treated the same.

The report of the solicitor's committee is a response to a review of the law on prostitution and related offences by the Criminal Law Revision Committee (CLRC).

The solicitors approve of a CLRC suggestion that the law should no longer refer to brothels. This would have "the distinct advantage of avoiding arguments about what does and what does not constitute the brothel". No offence would be committed where the premises were used for prostitution by not more than two prostitutes having their home there.

The Law Society committee agrees that there should be a new offence to deal with "kerb crawlers". But it opposes a much wider offence to catch all those who accost women for sex in public, in case an "important boyfriend" fell into the net.

At present men who ask women for sexual intercourse from their cars are not committing an offence. The CLRC proposes that it should be illegal to accost a woman from a car for sexual purposes, so as "to put her in fear" or "cause her

Fine on rape victim for carrying knife

From Our Correspondent
Leeds

A rape victim was fined £150 yesterday for carrying a flick knife which she claimed was for self-defence. Helena Cunningham, aged 21, who has been attacked twice in the last year, received the fine after a judge told her that a jury had decided that on the day in question she had the knife for an offensive purpose.

As she left Leeds Crown Court surrounded by 60 women demonstrators, she said: "I am very pleased that I was not jailed. I think that now I will have to put up with the threat of being attacked or raped again."

Yesterday the protesters, some from the group called Women Against Violence Against Women, gathered outside the court to wait for the sentence on Cunningham, of Meadowrough Avenue, Leeds, which had been deferred for six months so that she could complete a sociology degree at Leeds university.

Beer honours Himalaya run

Richard and Adrian Crane, the Cumbrian brothers who ran 2,000 miles over the Himalayas and have raised more than £27,000 for charity, are to have a special beer launched in their honour.

Jennings Brothers of Cockerham, will donate the profits on more than 18,000 bottles of "Marathon Ale" to the same charity. Intermediate Technology Development, which supplies simple tools to Third World countries.

Hang gliding helper killed

A man aged 19 who was killed in a 200ft fall at a Lake District beauty spot on Wednesday night had been helping a friend to hang-glide, police said yesterday.

Mr Jonathan White, of Stanbeck Road, Leeds, was on Walla Crag in Borrowdale, helping Mr Kenirion Tew, of Buxton Oval, Leeds, to take off when the hang-glider seemed to veer back and Mr White slipped off the cliff top.

Bone boy better

Doctors at the Royal Marsden Hospital in Sutton, Surrey, were "very pleased" yesterday with the progress of Simon Jenkins, aged two, the youngest patient to receive a bone marrow transplant. They will know in a week if the operation has succeeded.

Young 'still expect traditional marriage'

By Richard Dowden

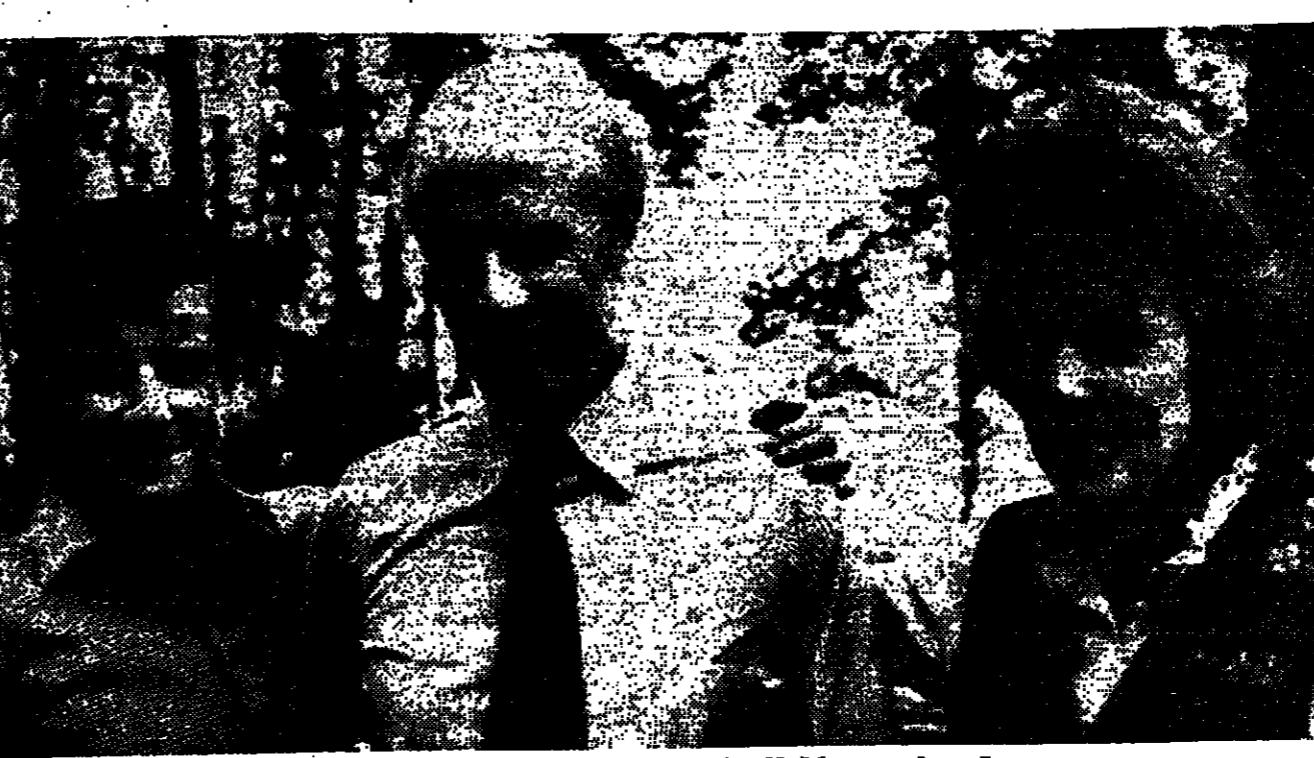
Marriage is adapting rather than changing radically, according to Miss Catherine Guy of the National Guidance Council.

In a pamphlet published today she says: "In many respects marriage is still the same as it was years ago".

Her findings are based on material from discussion groups, personal experience and surveys collected by marriage guidance counsellors in 1981.

Most young people expect to have children in marriage.

Despite a general agreement that men and women should share housework, when questioned in detail, men were less willing to do jobs like changing and washing nappies.



Mr Somerville, reunited yesterday with his wife Manon and son James.

Inglorious start for grouse season

By Stephen Goodwin

The opening of the grouse season seems likely to produce more action on the moors than provide satisfactory sport for guns paying up to £400 a day.

Although the British Field Sports Society describes prospects as variable, most other authorities expect a poor start to the season, with an improvement next month.

The wet spring disrupted nesting and there was also a great deal of disease. Some birds reared second broods, but the young are still very

Three grouse moors in the Peak National Park plan to open today, instead of the usual six, to give stocks time to recover. Several estates in Scotland have cancelled their bird shooting and the Sandi royal family are among the foreigners to call off shooting holidays.

The estate agents Strutt and Parker, the biggest British agents for sporting lets, consider themselves fortunate in not having anything booked for the early days of the season. "If we had lets I could well have expected cancellations. The birds might well not be of a decent size to shoot."

Five days grouse-shooting with accommodation can cost a team of eight guns up to £20,000.

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The advice will be contained in leaflets now being prepared at the Health Department for distribution to blood donor centres.

One doctor in charge of a regional blood-transfusion centre said last night that the pamphlet would describe what Aids was and list the high-risk groups: homosexuals, particularly those with more than one partner, drug addicts who inject themselves with drugs into a vein, and partners of people who have Aids.

There have been 14 cases of Aids in Britain so far. Five victims have died. One of the sufferers is a haemophiliac who would have received large quantities of a form of donated blood.

The IBA says it gets many complaints about the possible effect of jingles on children's speech, but maintains there is no evidence to suggest that it has long-term effects. "But it is a matter which should seriously be considered by advertisers and agencies".

Mr Harry Theobalds, the authority's head of advertising control, said: "You could equally argue the same thing about material in programmes."

Most of the 24 complaints last month were from viewers and listeners commenting on *The Mail on Sunday*'s series on the Yorkshire Ripper case by Mr Ronald Gregory.

The IBA says: "We noted the fair, large number of objections to this advertising and we acknowledge the force of the argument about offensiveness to public feeling. We also believe it was a mistake for the hoax tapes to be included in the commercial".

Yesterday the protesters, some from the group called Women Against Violence Against Women, gathered outside the Odeon Cinema in Leeds while making a CND protest.

Miss Celia Groves, for the defence, said that Cunningham had been raped and attacked twice. She said: "This young woman has had knife purely for her own protection."

As she left Leeds Crown Court surrounded by 60 women demonstrators, she said: "I am very pleased that I was not jailed. I think that now I will have to put up with the threat of being attacked or raped again."

Yesterday the court was told by Miss Gillian Whiteman, for the prosecution, that the knife was found when Cunningham and another woman were arrested outside the Odeon Cinema in Leeds while making a CND protest.

Miss Whiteman said: "The knife was found when Cunningham and another woman were arrested outside the Odeon Cinema in Leeds while making a CND protest."

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Reagan to hold weekend summit in Mexico on crisis in his backyard

From John Carlin, Mexico City

President Reagan and President Miguel de la Madrid are due to meet on Sunday in La Paz, in the Mexican peninsula of Baja California. According to both Mexican and American officials bilateral issues will take a back seat to the potentially far-reaching conflicts in Central America.

The expected presence of Mr George Shultz, American Secretary of State, Mr Langhorne Motley, the Assistant Secretary of State for Latin America, and Senator Bernardo Sepulveda, the Mexican Foreign Minister and guiding light of the Contadora peace initiative, underlines the importance that will be given to Central America.

There is speculation in both American and Mexican press that the presidential platitudes will no doubt conclude the meeting will mask what in reality will prove to have been a head-on clash.

A month ago President de la Madrid called an urgent meeting in Cancún of the Presidents of the four countries which make up the Contadora group, Colombia, Venezuela, Panama and Mexico.

At the end of that meeting, the Contadora Presidents issued a joint statement, "the Cancún Declaration for Peace in Central America", in which they were careful to avoid any direct reference to the countries involved in the regional conflict. Nevertheless, most analysts interpreted the declaration as, among other things, a criticism of the United States.

However, an announcement by Washington just two days later that it was both dispatching a powerful naval force to Central America's Pacific coast and sending about 5,000 troops for military manoeuvres in

a presidential commission con-

sidering long-term policy options in Central America, met President Reagan yesterday after the swearing-in of the 12 commission members on Wednesday. Dr Kissinger pledged that the group would produce "the fullest and fairest report of which we are capable".

At a time of economic crisis, the Mexican Government is extremely concerned that the revolutionary contagion might spread north through Central America, a possibility that would become more likely if Nicaragua and Honduras went to war, or El Salvador fell to the guerrillas.

President Reagan's policies may provoke a war in Central America but, diplomats in Mexico City believe, they have at least as good a chance of bludgeoning out a peace as the so far ill-fated diplomacy of the Contadora group.

• **WASHINGTON:** The Reagan Administration's diplomatic efforts in Central America are gaining momentum amid hopeful signs of early talks between the US-backed Government of El Salvador and the left-wing guerrillas (Christopher Thomas writes).

The strategy to facilitate regional talks, but not to participate, is beginning to show results, according to senior White House official.

US assessments suggest that Salvadorean troops are for now beating back the guerrillas to well-defined areas, but it is recognized that they could merely be regrouping.

They continue to be well armed, mainly by stealing from the military and buying on the international market. Supplies from Nicaragua probably represent a minor source, according to Central American diplomats in Washington.

Dr Henry Kissinger, head of a presidential commission con-

drawal of Israeli troops from the West Bank, and advocated a negotiated settlement that included the Palestinian Liberation Organization.

In addition, the resolution warned Christians in the West to recognize that their guilt over the fate of the Jews may have influenced their views of the conflict in the Middle East, and led to uncritical support for Israeli policies.

The resolution on the Middle East followed the general actions of the council's past

right of Israel and Arab countries to have secure boundaries, it called for the with-

drawal of South Africans.

An attempt by US delegates to soften the language by deleting specific mention of the United States in a section

opposing foreign military intervention in the region was decisively rejected on a show of hands. Delegates also voted to renew their denunciation of apartheid, and asked churches to campaign for the withdrawal of investments by companies doing business in South Africa.

The 900 delegates approved a

statement accusing the Reagan Administration of trying to destabilize the Nicaraguan Government as part of an effort to "contain the aspirations of

Help sought to identify sick Briton

A scared and bewildered Englishman, lying in a hospital bed in the United States after a car crash, is desperately trying to remember who he is. He could be helped by radio listeners who are calling the BBC with possible clues about his identity (the Press Association reports).

It was reported that the blond man, aged about 24 and 5ft 10in tall, is in hospital in Portland, Oregon, "rather scared" at not knowing his identity. He thought his name could be David Miller. He had no passport or papers to identify him.

He was injured in a car crash on July 30 and taken to the Emmanuel Hospital, Portland. A hospital worker said that "Mr Miller" remembered living in a flat in Finchley, north London.

Argentina puts on the brakes

Buenos Aires (Reuter) - Argentina's military Government has announced tighter state controls on the economy to curb inflation and help industrial debts.

The measures, which include state control of interest rates and tighter restrictions on prices and wages, were announced in a government statement after a Cabinet meeting yesterday.

Seoul amnesty

Seoul (AP) - The South Korean Government announced an amnesty affecting 1,943 people, including 693 political prisoners, most of whom are already out of prison. The measure coincides with independence celebrations.

Wind to rescue

Cape Town (Reuter) - Fresh southerly winds spread the huge oil slick from the broken Spanish tanker away from South Africa's Atlantic coastline yesterday. Officials described the escape from a disastrous fouling of the shore as miraculous.

Volta choice

Ouagadougou (AFP) - Captain Thomas Sankara, Upper Volta's new left-wing ruler, has appointed Major Boucary Jean-Baptiste Lingani, to be head of the country's armed forces, according to an official source.

Chase tragedy

Coatella (AP) - Eleven people were killed when a car, being chased by a border patrol, collided on Wednesday with a truck near here. The crash occurred on Highway 86, known as California's Blood Alley.

Ethiopia crisis

Addis Ababa (Reuter) - More than a million people are in urgent need of food relief in drought-stricken areas of northern Ethiopia, according to a US congressional delegation.

Palace facelift

Peking (Reuter) - Restoration work has begun at the site of Peking's old imperial Summer Palace, sacked and razed by an Anglo-French force in 1860. Known as the Yuanmingyuan (garden of perfection and light), the palace complex was built between 1709 and 1772.

10 years' grace

Dar es Salaam (AP) - China has agreed to postpone for 10 years the repayment of a £340m loan made to Tanzania and Zambia for construction of the Tazara railway between the two countries.

Golfer 'stable'

Sydney (Reuter) - The Australian golfer Jack Newton, who lost his right arm and an eye when he walked into the propeller of a light aircraft, is still in a serious but stable condition.

Mea culpa

Sante Fe, New Mexico (AP) - Chief Justice Vera Payne of New Mexico fined himself \$50 (£32) for being five minutes late for a court hearing. "The reason I levied the fine is that we have a schedule and there are other people depending on us."



The Glorious Twelfth

Church assembly ends on radical note

Vancouver (NYT, Reuter)

The sixth assembly of the World Council of Churches ended yesterday with votes condemning nuclear weapons, calling for a Middle East settlement that takes into account the plight of the Palestinians, condemning US policy in Central America, and calling for economic sanctions against South Africa.

The resolution on the Middle East followed the general

actions of the council's past

right of Israel and Arab

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opposing foreign military intervention in the region was decisively rejected on a show of hands. Delegates also voted to renew their denunciation of apartheid, and asked churches to campaign for the withdrawal of investments by companies doing business in South Africa.

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Gandhi under pressure over Indian Tamil hostility to Sri Lanka

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The 40 million Tamils in India are in a state of high indignation about the treatment of their brother Tamils in Sri Lanka.

Feelings in the rest of India, too, are hostile to the Government of Mr J. R. Jayewardene and to what are perceived here as his oppressive actions in banning talk of separation, and sequestering Tamil-owned properties damaged in the disturbances.

The Indian Prime Minister, Mrs Gandhi, and her ministers are having to pursue a delicate task in their relations with the island Government. They must be seen to be taking positive action to relieve the burden of the Tamils, without transgressing the code of non-interference endorsed by the Non-Aligned Movement of which India is the proud chairman.

The inhabitants of Tamil Nadu - "Tamil-land" as the former Madras state is now called - are enthusiastic supporters of the call for Tamil Eelam, the separate state which the secessionists wish to establish in the north and east of Sri Lanka.

A march of 5,000 Tamil volunteers, who signed a pledge in their own blood not to be deterred, is on its way to the coast of the Palk Strait which separates the island from the mainland.

Not to be outdone, the

president and the general secretary of the opposition DMK (Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam) in the assembly also resigned, protesting at the central Government's failure to intervene to save the Tamils from "genocide".

The competition between the chief minister, Mr M. G. Ramachandran's Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (ADMK) and the DMK to see who can be most supportive of the Tamil cause, also has an effect at the centre.

Mrs Gandhi is compelled to take some action in support of the Tamil cause. She cannot afford to alienate the ADMK and the chief minister, whom she is thought to be trying to woo into an electoral alliance.

According to informed observers, the Indian Government's policy now is to work up the dialogue begun in Delhi this week with the visit of the Sri Lankan President's brother, Mr H. W. Jayewardene, into a series of high level political contacts.

● COLOMBO: The leader of the opposition and secretary-general of the TULF, Mr Appapillai Amirthalingam, has sent a letter to President Jayewardene, which could form the basis for top-level negotiations between the Government and the Tamil front (Donovan Moldrich writes).

Hectic visit to Dhaka for Yaqub

Dhaka (AFP) - Bangladesh, the country which emerged from a war against Pakistan 12 years ago, held talks with Pakistan here yesterday which were described as free and frank.

They were between the respective foreign ministers, Mr A. R. Shams-Ud Doh and Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, and covered bilateral, regional and international issues, an official spokesman said.

It was the Pakistani foreign minister's first official visit to Bangladesh. The two ministers would continue to discuss all issues of mutual concern, the spokesman said. He declined to answer queries on specific issues being discussed.

Bangladesh and Pakistan have a long list of such issues, including the question of repatriation for the remaining 300,000 stranded Bihari Muslims who opted for Pakistan after the emergence of Bangladesh, the division of assets and liabilities between Dhaka and Islamabad and trade imbalances.

Roo dollar not fair dinkum

News that Australia's new dollar coin will not be "fair dinkum" Australia has set off a storm of protest (Tony Dubouillet writes). Dubbed the "Roo dollar", because of the five kangaroos on its reverse, it will be a yellow-gold colour and stamped from a blank made from 92 per cent copper, 6 per cent aluminium and 2 per cent nickel.

The coin will be stamped at the mint in Canberra but the blanks will be made overseas, probably in South Korea.

A Treasury spokesman explained that the contract would be given to an overseas company because there was no company in Australia capable of producing the base metal.

Queen is still regent, says Swazi minister

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

A 15-year-old prince who is at public school in England has been officially named as the future King of Swaziland but there were signs yesterday of a bitter feud developing between factions of the royal family.

Within hours of the dismissal on Wednesday as Regent of Queen Dzeliwe - known to Swazis as the *Indlovukazi* or Great She-Elephant - Prince Bikitimpi, the Prime Minister, announced that Prince Mokhohetive, when he is 21, will succeed King Sobhuza II, who died last August after ruling for 60 years.

The young prince, whose name means "King of the Nation" is the son of the New Queen Regent, Queen Ntombi, who like Queen Dzeliwe, was one of King Sobhuza's 100 wives. He is attending Greenwich House School, a unit of Sherborne college.

But yesterday, one of the most powerful men in Swaziland, Prince Gabheni, the Minister of Home Affairs and Head of the Defence Council, denounced Queen Dzeliwe's dismissal as unconstitutional and illegal. He said that despite a notice to the contrary in the government gazette, "Queen Dzeliwe is still regent. She has not been replaced."

Sources in Mbabane, the

Britons decide against caning appeal

By Rodney Cowton

At least five of the six Britons who have been sentenced to long terms in prison and to receive hundreds of strokes of the cane have decided not to appeal against their sentences.

They were visited in jail on Wednesday by Mr Douglas Stratton, a British Embassy official and the Foreign Office said yesterday that they had decided not to appeal.

The sentences were imposed last Sunday after the six men had admitted offences involving alcohol, which is banned in Saudi Arabia. The Foreign Office is expected to obtain official confirmation of their sentences, and of the charges, when an official goes to the court in Riyadh tomorrow.

It is believed that the charges related to alleged plans to take large quantities of whisky into the country.



Fire blacks out Seventh Avenue

Floodlights blazing in blacked-out Seventh Avenue, New York, as emergency services struggle to restore power after a fire at an electricity substation.

The fire plunged the city's fashion industry, in the heart of Manhattan, into darkness during a vital marketing week (Trevor Fishlock writes).

With thousands of buyers in town to look at the new fashion lines, manufacturers yesterday moved their models and clothes into hotel rooms

for shows, or fixed up emergency lighting on their own premises.

The blackout intensified the chaos in what is always a frenzied week in a tightly packed and busy part of the city between 30th Street and 42nd Street. More than half of New York's 5,500 clothing makers were affected.

"It is a blow to the industry at a crucial time", one of the editors of *Womenswear Daily* said. "But remember that this is a resilient industry and people are getting on with business."

Hundreds of stores, offices and

businesses have been knocked out by the power failure, which followed a devastating fire caused by a water main bursting and short-circuiting underground transformers. The electricity company hopes to restore power by Monday.

This was New York's worst power failure for two years. It is unlikely to have the spectacular after-effects of the legendary evening blackout of the mid-1960s, which was followed, nine months later, by heavy pressure on the city's maternity wards.

Britain tells Malta to halt Madrid stalling

From Harry Debelsius
Madrid

Britain called on Malta at the European security review conference here yesterday to stop delaying the conclusion of the meeting. No further amendments to the proposed final document stood any chance of gaining the necessary consensus of all 35 participating countries, Britain said.

Mr Kevin Passmore, of the British delegation, also responded to Malta's warning last week about the danger to the Helsinki process that might result from trying to bypass Malta and reach an agreement among the 34 remaining Helsinki nations.

He said Britain has no intention of violating the rule of consensus.

The Maltese delegation did not reply. Its insistence on incorporating changes in the proposed document to reflect its own concern on Mediterranean security, is the last obstacle in the way of final agreement.

If Malta continues to hold out past next Thursday, tentative plans to schedule the final sessions of the conference in the first week of September, with the participation of most of the foreign ministers, may have to be cancelled.

Spain, the host country, said last month that it would not have time to make the necessary preparations for the presence of foreign ministers unless the tentative plan became definite by August 25.

Get on famously on the Glorious Twelfth.

Quality in an age of change.

SPECTRUM

Michael Cimino was responsible for the true-life Hollywood disaster of *Heaven's Gate*, which cost \$40m and brought a major studio to its knees.

In London for a second opinion, he talked to Nicholas Wapshot

Sympathy for the bedevilled

The history of Hollywood is strewn with expensive failures. Erich von Stroheim's *Greedy* of 1923 began as an extravagant, 10-hour epic, only to be cut down on Irving Thalberg's orders to a mere two-and-a-half hours. Sam Peckinpah's *Major Dundee* ran into similar trouble in 1965, causing him years without work until he bounced back with *The Wild Bunch*. But no recent flop has so caught the imagination as the story of Michael Cimino's *Heaven's Gate*. It has become a byword for disaster, the most notorious example of a young director given his head and showered in money, turning in a grandiose, unpopular, unmarketable turkey.

This week Cimino flew into London to introduce, for the first time in Britain, the original uncut version of *Heaven's Gate*. Four days of screenings at the National Film Theatre this weekend will be the latest event in a slow campaign to have the film reassessed. Already, the full-length print has been seen in Venice and Rome. In Paris, so many wanted to attend the single showing at the Palais Chaillot that the doors of the Cinéma-théâtre were unhinged by those left outside. They burst into the auditorium and demanded that the film be restarted from the beginning.

Meanwhile, in the United States, Z Channel in Los Angeles, a pay-television cable network, has screened the complete version to record audiences at a record price. The film has also just opened on cable in Canada. Slowly, *Heaven's Gate* is at last finding an audience.

The quiet revival of what was thought to be a dead film has succeeded through the love of filmgoers to "discover" a lost epic and the solid support of Cimino and the others who worked on it. Cimino explained: I think that most of the people who made the movie have never broken faith with it. That comes as a surprise. Many people would prefer *amica culpa* "show us your stigmata and we'll forgive you from us, but neither I nor the producer, nor the actors, nor the crew has regretted making the movie."

It was three years ago that Michael Cimino became the laughing stock of Hollywood. His rise and fall in the movie business was predictable and traditional, a familiar storyline followed by dozens of cinema celebrities before him. He found himself in the good company of those, like Orson Welles, Charles Chaplin, von Stroheim and others, who enjoyed the fruits of success only to have their work and talents abused with the speed of one of those montages of swirling calendar dates and newspaper head-

lines that make a cinematic short-cut between riches and rags.

He had started out as a screenwriter of promise and came to the attention of Clint Eastwood, who provided him in 1974 with his first feature as director, *Thunderbolt and Lightfoot*. Then, with his second film, he struck gold. *The Deer Hunter*, about three Vietnamese veterans, swept the Oscars, including Best Film and Best Director. Cimino was the hottest property in Hollywood and Hollywood responded in the time-honoured way. United Artists, the owners of Francis Coppola's less obviously successful Vietnam epic, *Apocalypse Now*, and made an offer he couldn't refuse.

Cimino would be allowed to make a film of his own choice. The budget would be substantial and it was made clear that there would be no trouble at head office if it turned out that he needed more. He would be granted total artistic licence and there would be the minimum of interference. Even the senior executives of UA would forego their usual alarm mechanism of seeing the daily rushes. In short, he was given enough celluloid to hang himself.

Cimino decided to revive the Western, a type of movie which had fallen from popular favour. He would base it upon the Johnson County Wars, a little-remembered incident of US history in which stockholders took the law into their own hands in the systematic murder of 125 immigrants accused of stealing cattle. He hired the most fashionable actors of the times: Christopher Walken, the Russian roulette-playing star of *The Deer Hunter*; John Hurt, the Englishman from *Midnight Express*; Isabelle Huppert, the French beauty from *Claude Goretta's The Lacemaker*; and Kris Kristofferson, the singer.

The cost of Cimino's perfectionism became a great source of film-world gossip. All the sets and costumes were based on contemporary photographs. All the hats were hand made. All the location work was in remote areas, often meaning the cast and crew driving four hours to and from work each day. Two hundred thousand tons of Fuller's earth was spread about the key location to simulate mud. A steam train was brought across five states on a railway wagon.

There were other extravagances. Members of Cimino's old fighting unit, the Green Berets, were hired to teach actors how to handle firearms "not as a prop but as a lethal aid". When Mansfield College, Oxford, stood in for nineteenth-century Harvard, a treeless quad had been erected at its centre a huge oak, which had been bought, cut up,



Cimino on the set of *Heaven's Gate*: an offer he couldn't refuse.

numbered, then reassembled. The size of the cast swelled into four figures as the number of extras was spontaneously doubled or trebled. All the interior shots were photographed through a chemical smoke-screen for period effect, causing costly retakes to match previous footage. Cimino, engrossed and working around the clock, rode about in a Jeep, oblivious to the fact that he was riding for a fall.

For reasons unconnected to Cimino or the *Heaven's Gate* project, the press and public had come to hope that one of a number of wildly expensive films made by young directors, whose precocious had been rewarded by high budgets and low accountability, might come a cropper. One after another, the wobbly films arrived: Steven Spielberg's *Pearl Harbour* comedy, 1941; Martin Scorsese's 1940s musical romance, *New York, New York*; Francis Coppola's *Apocalypse Now*. Each had teetered but not quite fallen. When *Heaven's Gate* loomed into view with a budget of \$40 million, it looked as if it had been set up to fall over. There was a ready appetite for a disaster of Titanic proportions.

Today, Cimino prefers not to become involved in recriminations. "I think it was probably connected with the success of *The Deer Hunter*, but in order to understand it you have to understand so many things other than movies." He would have liked to have had time to cut and edit at leisure. "There was no time for previews. There was great pressure from inside United Artists to get it out. I expected that it would open at two small cinemas, in New York and LA, and that I would be able to change things, like Kubrick did with *2001*. But it was made into a conspicuous event."

The build-up had been so considerable that the press could not resist pronouncing. Cimino flew to New York for the press show and watched the film crumble before his eyes. The press smelt blood and leading the pack was Vincent Canby of the *New York Times*, usually the gentlest of critics. He wrote: "You might suspect Mr Cimino sold his soul to the devil to obtain the success of *The Deer Hunter* and the devil has just come around to collect."

The verdict was unanimous and merciless. *Heaven's Gate* jokes became the latest thing. Cimino and his producer, Joann Carelli, the uncredited producer of *The Deer Hunter*, begged for a reprieve. They asked their bosses at United Artists to withdraw the film from public view so that they could continue work on it. After a bare week in New York, the film was recalled.

Did the abuse and gloating hurt Cimino? He answers the question with absolute dispassion, as if his raw feelings had been soothed by a "think positive" therapy. "I am for the most

The cost of Cimino's perfectionism became a great source of film gossip

part unaware of those critics. I went straight back to work. I try not to read too much criticism, but in this case there was no time. We were still at work after the original opening. There really didn't seem to be much point in reading it. What I was told didn't seem to be about the movie or myself, but about some other movie and someone else."

Several months and a further \$10-million later, Cimino was ready with the second version, cut by an hour but even less coherent than the original. By the time of the second coming, most people had become bored with the whole affair. It opened to apathy and didn't last.

"One of the things that is disturbing about that sort of reaction has to do with all of your colleagues. For instance David Mansfield, who wrote all the music. He played the boy with the fiddle on roller skates in the film. It was his first time and it was a superior score."

Vittorio Storaro, who photographed *Reds*, said to Vilmos Zsigmond, who worked for me, that he thought Vilmos was bound to take the Oscar for *Heaven's Gate*, but you do not like to see your own people not getting work."

Does he regret the way it all turned out? "No. I do not have regrets about the work that I do. You cannot work that way. It is a bit like being in the army. There are no excuses, no complaints. You cannot be effective if you are always looking back over your shoulders. There is an old Arab saying 'The blow that doesn't break you strengthens you' And who is there to be angry at?"

Cimino has not directed a film in the three years since *Heaven's Gate*. Many projects have been mentioned, but none have come to fruition. It was suggested that might direct the latest remake of *Mutiny on the Bounty*, which his hero, David Lean, had turned down; the plan did not work out. And he is reluctant to be drawn on his current work, which he simply calls "a project for Columbia".

"Other directors work on a number of projects at the same time, some of which might work out, and they can talk about them. But if I say anything, it is all over the newspapers. It is a bit dismaying because I am treated in the press more as an actor than a director. A director should be invisible."

And he insists that he is still a director and writer and has been working solidly since the debacle. "Time and time again we have seen musicians and artists suffer similar criticisms to which I have received for *Heaven's Gate*, but they keep working, they keep writing, they keep painting and, if they are lucky, the work endures. Finally, that's what it is about. It sounds like a cliché, but work is the reward."

Heaven's Gate is being shown twice daily at the National Film Theatre tomorrow, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

moreover...
Miles Kington

Grousing about the Twelfth

From Lord Disgusted

Sir, Many people mock the concept of grouse shooting as old-fashioned and behind the times. But this year you will have read that there are very few grouse left on the moors and that it will be a lucky shot who bags a pair, or pairs a bag, or whatever the expression is. This proves that grouse shooting does work. We have almost exterminated the little pests. Another year, and perhaps the Scottish highlands will at last be free from these cunning, evil-minded little blighters. Keep shooting!

From Lord Whartle

Sir, I read that as grouse are now so rare, many owners of grouse moors are thinking of turning their property over to forestry. As one who did so 10 years ago, may I be permitted to comment?

Our experience is that although people find it strange at first shooting at trees instead of grouse, they come to enjoy it very much. Foreign businessmen who have come to Scotland year after year without hitting a single grouse suddenly discover that shooting at and winging a tree is comparatively easy, and of course the tree does not die. Ignorant quarters say that hitting a stationary tree is not sportsman-like; the truth is of course that on all but the calmest days the tree blow about a lot and it still requires skill to bring down a young larch or spruce.

Our season, too, starts on the twelfth, and we shall enjoy the usual race to be the first to bring the season's first pine needles to a London restaurant. Last year, by the way, I shot at and missed a young fir on the opening day, but brought down a pair of grouse sitting in the branches!

From Mr J. G. Lavolse

Monseur, As usual we shall be taking part in the race to be the first people to bring a London restaurant up to the Scottish moors to serve a grouse on the Glorious Twelfth. At midnight on the eleventh, we at the Petit Bistro de Chez Jean shall be air-lifting our little *hôte* by helicopter and flying it through the night to Scotland. By dawn we shall be in position in Glenbulier near Loch Rannoch and open to serve grouse all day. If no grouse are available, we shall be serving freshly shot trout and salmon. Looking forward to seeing you all!

From Colonel Wagpiper

Sir, I might have known it. Every year, as regular as clockwork, we get so-called satirical comments from such as your columnist Miles Kington (is that really his name?) about the noble sport of grouse shooting. How many times do I have to explain that without the dedicated breeding and conservation of those concerned, there would be hardly any grouse left? Shooting is conservation.

If you then ask me how it is that there are hardly any grouse left, my answer is I do not know. But that is quite beside the point.

From Henry the Talking Avocet

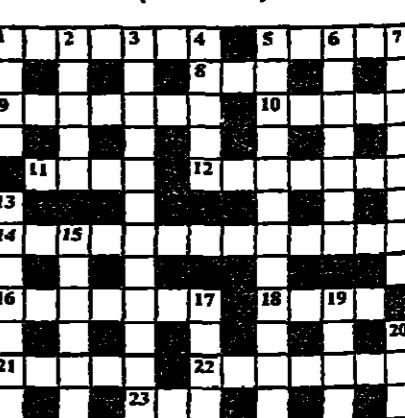
Hello darlings! Your old friend Henry here, halfway through his summer season at Lowestoft or Skegness or somewhere, and my goodness the crowds have been flocking this year to see me in my spectacular production of *Seagulls Over Sorrento*. But enough of me. I just wanted to reminisce briefly about the one time I got involved in the grouse shooting season.

In 1978 I was in Scotland to see a rather charming pheasant with whom I was conducting a passionate but short-lived *affaire scandaleuse*, and on August 12 we happened to be out on the moors when all hell broke loose. Not since a cabaret tour of the Lebanon had I felt so at risk.

Keeping my head, I infiltrated myself among the beaters and cried out in my best Knightsbridge accent: "Aim at the trees over here, you chaps!" The result was gratifying. Six beaters shot, two winged and Lord Stratcomfrey driven round the bend. Yes, a good day's sport all round.

If a certain young quail named Yvonne should chance to read this, may I make it quite clear that all is over between us? You may keep the ring if you like, it is only from the top of a larger tin.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 124)



ACROSS

- 1 Loudness measure
- 2 Profane oath (5)
- 3 Bachelor's degree
- 4 Space mystery (1,1)
- 5 Smarter (7)
- 6 Practice (5)
- 7 Second in series (4)
- 8 Leftover drink (?)
- 9 Too (4)
- 10 Extreme (5)
- 11 Charge (3)
- 12 Endow (5)
- 13 Image boosting project (3,4)
- 14 Without feature (13)
- 15 Miscarried (7)
- 16 Deputy's function (5)
- 17 Usual chaos (5)
- 18 Crooked (4)
- 19 Custardlike food (7)
- 20 Custardlike food (7)
- 21 Extreme (5)
- 22 Unite with oxygen (2)
- 23 Charge (3)
- 24 Endow (5)
- 25 Custardlike food (7)

SOLUTION TO NO 123

- ACROSS: 1 Mooring 5 Thrill 8 Err 9 Effort 10 Advice 11 Imp 12 Own 13 Foul 14 Jogger 17 Intercom 20 Neon 22 Abdica 23 Awestruck 24 Elm 25 Ascend 26 Sugary
- DOWN: 1 Cheap bed (4)
- 2 Profane oath (5)
- 3 Bachelor's degree (13)
- 4 Stagger (5)
- 5 Burglary (13)
- 6 Bubble (1)
- 7 Walk by (4,6)
- 8 Time plan (8)
- 9 Miscarried (7)
- 10 Practice (5)
- 11 Second in series (4)
- 12 Leftover drink (?)
- 13 Image boosting project (3,4)
- 14 Without feature (13)
- 15 Custardlike food (7)
- 16 Custardlike food (7)
- 17 Deputy's function (5)
- 18 Crooked (4)
- 19 Usual chaos (5)
- 20 Custardlike food (7)

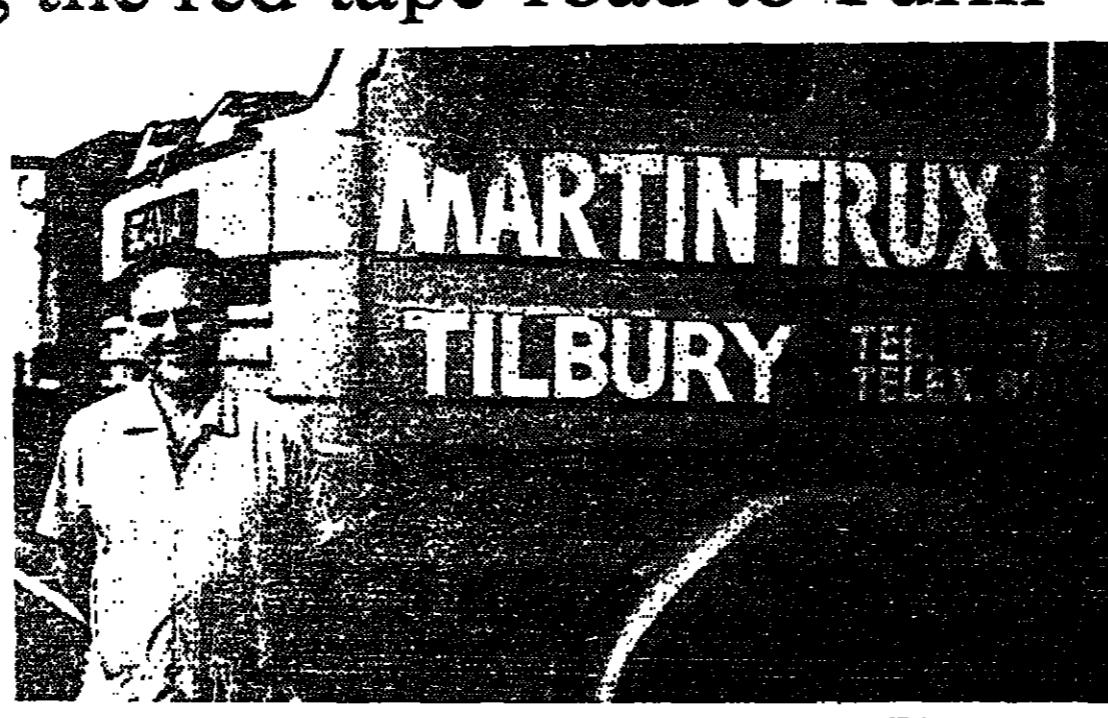
Taking the red tape road to Turin

Robert Moreland, Euro-MP for Staffordshire East, recently travelled across Europe in the cab of a long-distance lorry to see how the European Community looks to the men whose daily business is crossing borders. Here he tells Patricia Clough of the endless waiting, the red tape and the corruption in a Europe supposedly dedicated to free and unrestricted travel.

It was about dawn on Monday, July 18 as I set out from Tilbury in the co-driver's seat of a 32-ton articulated lorry bound for Turin. Beside me was Monty Murrell, an experienced long-distance driver who did the run regularly. Behind us was some £80,000 worth of mixed freight, ranging from radio-cassette recorders to titanium dioxide, which we had to deliver in France and Italy.

For four years I have sat on the transport committee of the European Parliament, battling with the mass of different rules and regulations, the vested interests and other problems which when it comes to transport still prevent the Common Market being a common market. Now I wanted to see for myself what really goes on at the Community's internal borders. It was even worse than I feared.

The first incident happened before we had even left Britain. At Dover the Customs asked to see a consignment of photographic chemicals imported from the United States but bound for France. The officer just looked at the boxes, not at the content. It was a short delay, but it meant we missed the boat. We had to wait 90 minutes for the next ferry and consequently failed to reach the French customs clearing house near Paris that night. I think of the cost of such a delay which ties up a £50,000 lorry and a driver earning £300 a week plus expenses, then



Robert Moreland: cigars, but no whisky for the Italian passport officials

have declared it illegal. Then you have to have a permit to drive the lorry through France. Germany and Italy insist on permits. They are issued on a quota system and there are never enough, so some drivers travel illegally. The European Parliament wants many more permits, but Germany especially is against it because it wants to channel freight on to the railways. Then there are T-forms - T for Transit - one for each type of goods carried, six copies of each. On the return journey we carried machine tools. Each tool and each individual type of drill attachment had to have its own T-form. Of course the log book, passport and insurance all have to be in order.

At the Italian border the passport official asked if we had any cigarettes. Monty gave him some cigars. I asked what would have happened if he hadn't given him anything. "He would have asked him for a large sum of money. But Monty's papers were in order."

The Turin clearing house is surrounded by a mass of rusting vehicles, some with British number plates, impounded for some long-

forgotten misdemeanour and written off by their owners.

We were lucky by Turin standards; we only had to wait four hours. The Italians insisted on us going through the whole clearance process again as we were leaving, though why I cannot imagine. You would think they would be glad to export their goods. The French did not care about us on the way back, but we had a four-hour wait at Dover because it was busy.

I was astonished not by the mountain of paperwork involved in the journey, but by the amount of time wasted at customs' posts. During the week we spent a total of seventeen and a half hours waiting at customs offices. The Commission estimates that these delays alone cost £600m a year. Customs duty has been abolished; the delays are caused by working out the differences in VAT and excise duty in each country. Not one official asked to look at our load.

So much of that paperwork could be reduced by inter-connected computers and data processing. One suspects that the officials themselves are resisting such changes; inevitably they would mean fewer jobs. France must be told to stop demanding the *Carnet de passage* risk being hauled before the European Court of Justice. We must put a stop to the permit system, it is an encouragement to bribery and corruption.

All the drivers I spoke to complained that no one ever takes any notice of their problems. If the EEC's transport ministers and officials could see what things looked like from the cabin of a lorry, perhaps those problems would be dealt with.

Patricia Clough is the New Collins Concise dictionary.

Drugs ring with a difference

Jenny Bryan examines the curious route taken by British drugs from manufacturer to chemist, a route costing the NHS about £50m a year

Information on drug packaging can be confusing at the best of times. If it is in French or Italian, it becomes incomprehensible, but more and more drugs manufactured for people on the Continent are finding their way on to the British shelves because it is cheaper to import them from Europe than to buy them in this country. And it is probably costing the Department of Health and Social Security £50m a year.

The practice of importing cheap drugs has arisen because of the enormous price differences around the world. In some cases, British made drugs are actually re-imported to Britain because they can be bought so much cheaper in Europe. In other instances, drugs get into Europe from the Far East, and eastern Europe, are repackaged and brought to Britain with French, Belgian or Italian stamps on them.

Anyone importing a drug to Britain needs a product licence and normally it is only the manufacturer who holds such documents. A loophole in the law, however, allows people without licences to import small quantities of drugs which are not available in Britain but are needed for individual patients.

In the last year the practice of "parallel importing" cheap drugs has increased dramatically. Wholesalers found an unexpected ally in Brussels, since EEC legislation encourages free trade in drugs across the borders of member countries. The DHSS made a brief effort to curtail the practice, but discovered it would be breaking EEC law if it did so.

Parallel importing is reckoned to be costing the DHSS £50m a year. This is because pharmacists who buy cheap imported drugs do not pass on the results of their good housekeeping to the NHS. When putting in their accounts to the DHSS for reimbursement of the cost of buying drugs, they charge the department the full recommended British price.

The DHSS recently announced that it would claw back the estimated 6 per cent profit which pharmacists are known to make from buying drugs from the big three British wholesalers who do not import drugs. But the DHSS has not tackled the 20-25 per cent

profit they are reckoned to be making from imported drugs.

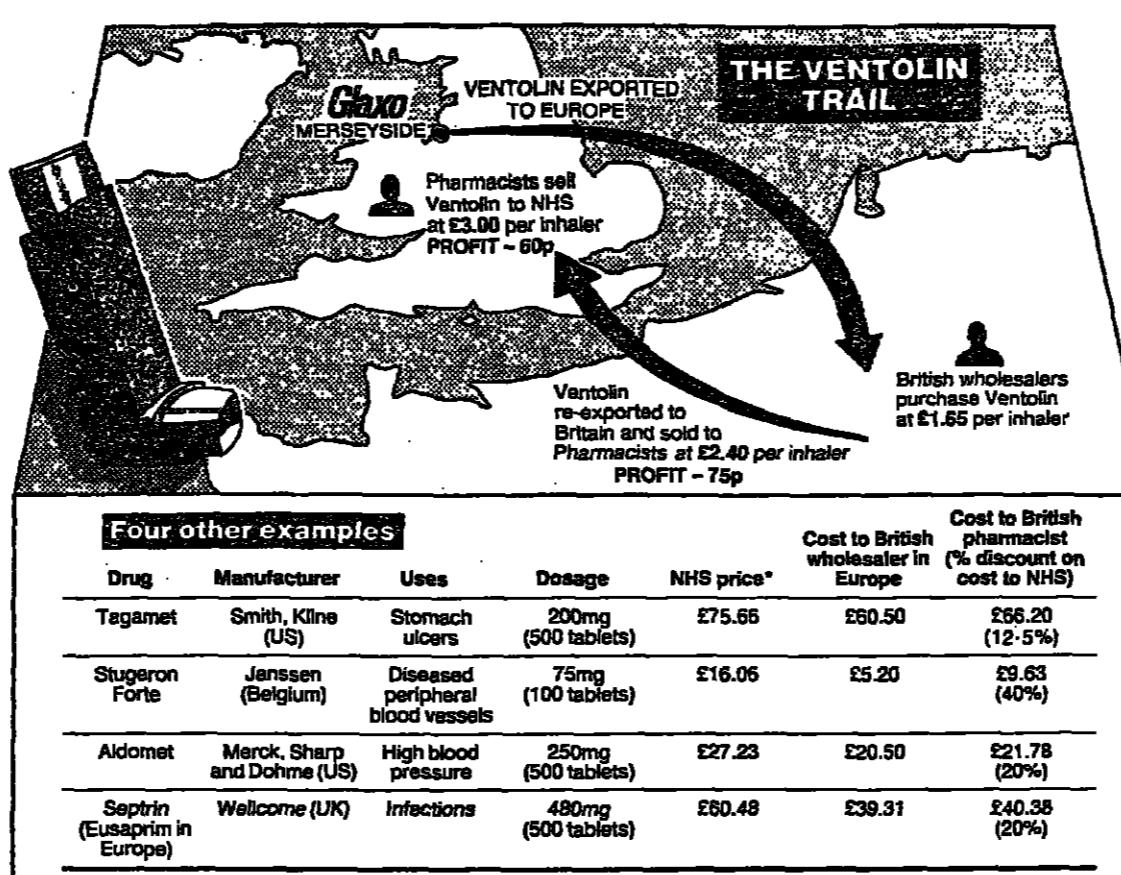
Feelings run high over parallel importing. Drug companies selling in Britain deplore the practice because of their loss of earnings. Pharmacists' representatives are worried because of the risk of pharmacists being held responsible for drug accidents. Repackaging of drugs in Europe or in Britain often makes it difficult to find the manufacturer so pharmacists, as the last traceable link, could find themselves liable for any serious side effects of the drugs.

Both companies and pharmacists are especially nervous about drugs which come into Britain from outside Europe and may have been stored under highly questionable conditions. The importers insist that they know their sources and can guarantee the quality of the drugs they bring to Britain. But as with any commercial venture, there are always cowboys who make their money and conveniently disappear.

Drug companies do not sell their products more cheaply in Europe from choice. France, for example, introduced tough controls on drug prices which prevent companies from charging at British levels. The industry argues that such measures stifle investment and hence research and development of new drugs.

Recently Mr Norman Fowler, the Health Minister, announced a 2.5 per cent cut in British drug prices, and further controls on the profitability of the industry are expected. A leading parallel importer in the North of England said he found the present cut distasteful. "It won't make a scrap of difference to parallel importing," he said. "We are open to a 5 per cent negotiation on our prices to pharmacists and other wholesalers 2.5 per cent is nothing."

Both the drug industry and major wholesalers who do not import cheap drugs have urged the health minister to crack down on parallel importing. Any further package to control drug prices in Britain may include a curb on importing which will make the total deal more palatable to the drug industry. In the meantime, drug sales in Britain are as subject to vagaries of the marketplace as the fruit and vegetable stall or the car industry.



The parallel path to profit

Ventolin is the most commonly prescribed drug in Britain. Most of this country's two million asthmatics will probably take it some time in their lives. Its manufacturer, Glaxo, is not the only one to benefit financially from its success. Ventolin is on the best seller lists of a growing army of people buying drugs cheaply in Europe, importing them to Britain and selling them for profit to pharmacists.

Only Glaxo at one end of the deal and the NHS at the other lose out. Both the wholesaler and the pharmacist make money through "parallel importing" of drugs. Ventolin leaves Glaxo's Merseyside factory stamped with the company's batch numbers and guarantees of quality and safety, ready for export. It is transported to the Continent and stored in the warehouses of Glaxo's subsidiaries.

Wholesalers can buy the drug and sell it in turn to hospitals and chemists, or they may pass it on to British wholesalers with bases on the Continent. They then reload the

Ventolin back on to trucks and head for the English Channel. The drug, having had the dubious pleasure of a trip round the European countryside, arrives back in Britain within weeks after it leaves. The only difference is its price.

In Britain the basic cost of a Ventolin inhaler to the NHS is £3. In Europe, British wholesalers involved in parallel importing can buy it for just over half that price: £1.65. They pay the cost of transporting it back to Britain and then charge pharmacists working in local chemists £2.40. The pharmacist charges the NHS the normal recommended price - £3. So he makes 60p on each inhaler and the importer makes 75p.

It may not sound a great deal of money, but that saving is on just one inhaler of one drug. The cost of parallel importing as a whole to the NHS is reckoned to be £50m. Some companies are known to have bigger worldwide price differentials. These include Glaxo, Merck, Sharp and Dohme and Wellcome. Others, such as Smith, Kline, do not.

Parallel importers like to trade in Ventolin because it has a fast turnover. They can make more money on other drugs, but may not be able to sell them so quickly. Stugeron Forte, for example, is used to dilate blood vessels in the arms and legs. It is made by Janssen a Belgian company, and costs, in Britain, £16.06 for a pack of 100 tablets. In Belgium it can be bought for just over £5, brought to Britain and sold to pharmacists for around £10 - a massive 40 per cent saving on the official NHS price.

Other highly profitable drugs are Adalat, used to treat angina, Aldomet for high blood pressure and Zyliec, for gout. Price reductions depend on how much the pharmacist is buying and how quickly he can pay. But he can make an average saving of 20 to 25 per cent - three to four times that available from the big three British wholesalers who do not practise parallel importing.

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Somewhat with tongue in my cheek I allowed myself to be marched to the manager's office, when that individual became almost apoplectic at my silence. I invited him to examine the back page of the paper where I had (almost) come

How to claim benefit and keep the Rolls

COMMENT

Company directors whose firms go into liquidation leaving nothing for a golden handshake may be relieved to learn that there is a possibility that they can hang on to their Rolls-Royces, Cessnas and Campers and still claim money from the state.

The occasions will, of course, be rare, as is made plain in the S Manual of instructions to supplementary benefit officers, which is now published in fulfilment of the Government's pledge to make the rules public.

No-one can receive supplementary benefits if he has capital of £500 or more, rising to £3,000 in November. But deciding what counts towards that capital limit is one of the tasks facing supplementary benefit officers when faced with an initial claim.

The S Manual tells them that

it would be unreasonable to disregard the possession of a very expensive car, a yacht or an aircraft, the manual says. Nevertheless, if they were bought before the claim for benefit was made - and it could hardly be otherwise - and benefit has been paid for less than a year, then what has to be considered is whether possessing the Rolls is compatible with the living standards of other people with a similar lifestyle or job.

Even if the supplementary benefit officer decides that the former company director was living only up to the standards of his peers, but it would be unfair to disregard the Cessna, there is still a let-out clause. If it would take time to realize the asset, he must consider whether to make an urgent needs payment to tide the claimant over.

It is different at the other end of the scale. Supplementary benefits

are supposed to be sufficient for normal clothing and footwear and, except in cases of exceptional hardship, lump sum grants are no longer payable to replace them.

But if items regarded as essential are damaged, destroyed or stolen, lump sum can be paid to replace them. The manual says two pairs of shoes per person are essential.

The rules cover all kinds of other obscure cases, including instructions on how to deal with claims from a polygamous household. In that case, the second or subsequent spouse is to be treated as needing to live on the difference between the rate for a couple and a single householder: an amount that works out at less than the normal rate paid to an 18-year-old school leaver still living at home.

Even if it would take time to realize the asset, he must consider whether to make an urgent needs payment to tide the claimant over.

It is different at the other end of the scale. Supplementary benefits

Only middling

Politics in relation to aging is, as the Prime Minister has discovered, an irrational subject. Since she has none of the usual predisposing causes for a retinal tear we must assume that this occurred as a complication of the normal middle aged retraction of the vitreous jelly within the eye; this is no more sign of sickness or overwork than other politician's baldness, greying or corpulence.

Coughs and sneezes...

Mothers who spend the winter months writing sick notes explaining the absence of their children from school may be glad to hear that science confirms their suspicions: their children's coughs and colds could be related to the low temperature of some classrooms, and the dry atmosphere.

Mr G H Green from the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan has collected evidence which shows that the control of temperature and humidity in communal buildings should be precise, as when all variations are likely to have an appreciable effect on the incidence of sneezing, coughing, sore throats and fevers but had no effect in regard to tummy upsets or urinary tract disorders. An interesting and unexplained finding was that foot infections are less common in correctly humidified surroundings.

Although most of the work quoted was written about conditions in American or Swiss schools or barracks, O M Lidwell and his team have in the past published similar findings on the epidemiology of the common cold in British schools.

Investigations have shown that there is a relative humidity which micro-organisms find particularly hostile; over or above that figure a greater percentage survive longer, not all these survivors will remain infectious, but the drying of the nasal passages as the humidity falls may encourage infection.

Typhoid infections are still

considered as a fifth cousin.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Watch the water



Dr William van Heyningen, former Master of St Cross College, has recently retired from the Oxford School of Pathology and the US National Institute of Health Cholera Advisory Committee and the Cholera Research Laboratory at Dacca, but has remained an outspoken as ever over the problems of gastrointestinal infections.

Travellers and tourists in his view catch typhoid, cholera, food poisoning and many forms of hepatitis because they eat or drink other people's sewage. Inoculations may be helpful against some diseases, but as a precautionary measure they can never replace the need to be careful about food and drink. He advises that except in exceptional circumstances care should be taken to eschew uncooked foods including salads, even washed fruit can have its dangers as it is impossible to know whether the water was clean. Melons he views with particular wariness as in some places it is the local custom to make them heavier by injecting water, or as he prefers to call it, very dilute sewage. Oranges, lemons and bananas he will take.

Other points to watch are ice added to drinks, water, soft drinks bottled by little known firms, ice creams and shellfish, which have an ability to concentrate micro-organisms in the body.

One of Dr van Heyningen's major interests has been in cholera control: he feels, and most experts agree, that the present cholera injection is practically useless, it stimulates antibody formation in the wrong parts of the body. Cholera is a disease of the intestines and it is in the intestines that the antibodies must be operative. Doctors are now working on a vaccine which can be given by mouth and which will provide the resistance where it is needed.

Typhoid infections are still

considered useful, particularly against water-borne infections, although they are not always quite so effective when there is a larger dose of germs taken in contaminated food. All tourists going to less hygienic parts of the world are recommended to have this injection, particularly if, unlike Dr van Heyningen, they are not determined to eat all their meals, except the occasional curry, in a five star hotel.

Safe drug

This year it may not be a glorious twelfth on the grouse-starved Scottish moors, but it is for your friendly neighbourhood chemist who always feels frustrated that he spent many years learning pharmacy, only to find that when qualified his income is dependent on the sale of hot water bottles, lipstick and cameras.

As from today the pharmacist will be able to supervise the sale, without a doctor's prescription, of a powerful, but safe drug, ibuprofen. It is one of the post-war, post-aspirin, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, invaluable in the treatment of various forms of rheumatism, muscular aches and pains, and headaches. Some of this group, including ibuprofen, are very useful for treating painful periods.

Professor Stuart Adams of the University of Nottingham, who also works for Boots Research, says that it has been on prescription since 1969 and has proved a very safe drug for people of all age groups.

Sales of ibuprofen, which will be sold to the public under the trade name of Nurofen, one unlikely to be affected by the adverse publicity engendered by Opan. Although a member of the same family of drugs, it is so distantly related to Nurofen that, in the view of Professor Adams, it would be unfair to

consider it even as a fifth cousin.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

TALKBACK

Undercover security

From Mrs Eleanor Tobia, Glencairn Drive, Glasgow

Last Saturday I set off alarm bells in a department store, as happened in the article about being wrongly accused of shoplifting. I was carrying a large carrier bag which contained at least eight items of clothing I had bought during the morning.

As I came off the escalator on to the first floor the security bell rang and I was approached by two members of staff. I think I may have been lucky as they were extremely polite, helpful and reassuring. My innocence seemed to be presumed.

After a long search which revealed no tag (I began to think I might be bionic, they took each item and passed it through the alarm beam till at last the trousers were declared guilty (bought in another store belonging to the same group).

Insignificant women's wages may too often be, but they none the less make an important - and sometimes the only - contribution to their household's budget. The actuarial insistence on regarding women's incomes as in some way different from men's is nicely stigmatized by Robin Ellison, whom you quoted: we should be thinking, as he said, not of men's and women's distinctive needs, but of people's needs.

The fact that the Government refuses to do this in the state scheme, and moreover has made pensions an exception to the terms of the Sexual Discrimination Act is the other side of the problem.

The Occupational Pensions Board, reasonably enough, takes the line that occupational schemes should not be required to provide benefits which the state does not provide. This means that the onus in improving the position is on the institutions which set up the schemes, on the employers and on each of us as employees, to see the women and men are treated equitably.

It was in the light (or should I say "the dark") of this inequity that at our AGM the National Federation of Women's Institutes passed, by an overwhelming majority, a resolution urging the provision of equal spouses' benefits in occupational pensions schemes.

From R W Farrington, Marsham Court, London SW1.

Your Wednesday Page article makes the familiar point that women are commonly hard done by in not being able to secure for their husbands an entitlement to widowers' pensions.

It would be as true to say that employed men are generally quite as hard done by.

Contributing as I do, as a civil servant towards the pension to be paid during the hypothetical widowhood of my non-existent wife, I feel the disadvantageous inequality to which the article refers to bear much more on the male sex.

THE TIMES

Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES

In harmony: The Three Choirs Festival

An unpublished story: Daisy Ashford, author of The Young Visitors, on the Pope's "first visit to Britain"



**THE TIMES
DIARY**

Poll stars

Saatchi and Saatchi have just won yet another election. Margaret Thatcher's favourite advertising agency were called in at short notice to put the finishing touches to President Shehu Shagari's successful bid for re-election in Nigeria. Saatchi are getting a little blasé about such achievements. When I called to congratulate them, the account executive to whom I was connected said: "President Who?"

Tripe in, tripe out

Sir Brian Hayes, permanent secretary at the Department of Trade and Industry, recently inspected the DTI's computer centre at Eastcote. At his last department, Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Hayes fulfilled a similar engagement and fed into one of the computers the name of the chief regional officer who was standing beside him boasting of the equipment's capacity for storing information about personnel. The computer responded: "No such officer exists." Determined not to embarrass an underling again, at Eastcote, Hayes tapped his own name into the data system. It promptly provided him with full details of the Hayes Tripe Company.

BARRY FANTONI



Labour of love

Publisher Aidan Ellis took to last year's Frankfurt Book Fair designs by Jonathan Biggs for *The Pop-up Kama Sutra*. He sold £100,000 worth of rights in five hours. It has taken more than a year, though, to find anyone to print the book. Pop-up specialists are in Colombia (strict religious attitudes), Singapore (stern morality laws), and Czechoslovakia (inability to promise how many copies of anything so deliciously decadent would ever leave the factory). Finally the contract will go either to Spain or Hong Kong and the book, which Ellis promises will be both tasteful and witty, should appear in October 1984.

Poor layer

From Qatar a reader writes of a recent trip on an Inter-City 125. His order for bacon and eggs in the buffet met with a refusal "because we have no eggs", followed swiftly by the offer of a bacon-and-egg sandwich. How could this be? "We do the eggs in the microwave oven and they don't look too good. But you don't see them in a sandwich."

Tooth's gap

A missing picture of the artist's wife is being urgently sought for the first full-scale exhibition since 1960 of the work of Sir Matthew Smith, whom Augustus John called one of the most individual figures in modern English painting. It is the only portrait Smith made of his wife Gwendoline, sister of Air Marshal Sir John Sandon. Painted in 1912, it was last heard of in 1978 when Tooth's sold it to a John Leslie who gave his address as c/o the Crown Commissioners. The commissioners have no knowledge of it. Mrs Vera Russell, who has chosen 90 paintings for the exhibition, which opens at the Barbican art gallery next month, says the tribute will not be complete without the missing canvas.

• A man called Fried in New York sells carpets. Accordingly his shop-front sign says: Fried Carpets.

Humble pie

The great Cornish pasty competition ended yesterday, leaving the judges unanimously convinced that Mum baked better. Tesco arranged it, after their claim that their pasties were "as Cornish as they come" had excited some derision. They got 3,000 recipes of which 10 were short-listed and cooked for the judges. The proper pasty is large, includes potatoes that are sliced, not diced, meat in chunks, not minced, pastry that is hard, not rich or crumbly, and edges curled so that in miners with arsenic on their fingers could safely hold the crust and throw away that contaminated bit when the rest was eaten. David Penhaligon, Truro's MP who chaired the panel, said Commons pasties were "unmentionable". After this experience he had new respect for his wife's pasties, his mother's, "and my mother-in-law's too, of course".

Those MPs still at Westminster are competing to obtain newly-designed House of Commons envelopes, which are much more distinguished than the old type. They now have the Commons portcullis in the top-left corner, but in place of the word "Official" on the right is this six-sided design of the Queen's profile, handsomely embossed in a style very reminiscent of the old penny black.

PHS

Famine, the forgotten enemy

Food has been so plentiful in Britain for so long that a sudden disruption in supply is hard to imagine. Hermann Bondi, John C. Bowman and Jonathan Bates warn how it could happen in war – even non-nuclear

Though the linkage between war and hunger is well established, there is a tendency to forget how much starvation can contribute to the horrors that arise from a conflict. We remember the damage and death resulting from high-level bombing of cities during the Second World War to a far greater extent than the deaths caused by shortage of food. Of course, this can be partly explained by the fact that in Britain we did not suffer from shortages to the extent that real hunger resulted and that in the United States and Canada food supply was never a problem.

This state of affairs did not apply to other countries, either in the industrialized or less-developed world, where the effects of disruption to the production and distribution of food had massive and horrific effects.

The siege of Leningrad, which lasted for some 900 days, resulted in a shortage of food such as no other industrialized city has ever experienced. More than half the population is thought to have perished from hunger. Equally, we tend to forget that the last winter of the Second World War led to such shortages of food in The Netherlands that only a few months before the liberation there was doubt whether the Dutch population would survive at all. Starvation was also rife in Rome during the dreadful last winter before liberation.

Even these events pale beside the great Bengal famine of 1942, which arose out of the disruption to supplies of food from countries farther east, notably Thailand and Burma, as a direct consequence of the global conflict. Twenty million people are supposed to have perished from hunger in Bengal. Nearly the same total died in the Soviet Union as a result of direct enemy action, yet the devastation in Bengal is barely remembered outside the Indian subcontinent.

During this century methods of agricultural production in the industrialized world have been

changing rapidly, largely because of a substantial increase in mechanized methods. Whereas the horse was once the major means of power and transport, we are now dependent on the tractor, which in turn depends on oil. In Britain alone this has released almost 10 million acres of land previously used to produce food for horses to produce food for people.

The genetic potential of crops has also increased, the application of appropriate levels of fertilizers and pesticides has become routine and the cultivation of land and harvesting of crops takes place at the optimum time because of new machinery. Yields of the important staple grains are now virtually independent of the vagaries of climate.

Livestock production has undergone a similar revolution. Cattle, pigs and poultry are now housed in heated and ventilated buildings with piped water and mechanized feeding. Vastly improved methods of hygiene, together with vaccines and medicines, control the most significant disease problems. Automated manure disposal, machine milking and automatic egg collection contribute to the low levels of labour required for livestock husbandry. All these systems depend on regular, uninterrupted supplies of electricity, liquid fuel and gas, and water.

While these changes have been taking place, a revolution has occurred in food distribution. Whereas distribution was once based around local markets and small, independent shops selling fresh produce, we now have a complex chain of food processing organizations, transferring farm

produce from the countryside to a largely urban population. Food processing and distribution have become complex activities, heavily dependent on techniques such as pasteurization, freezing, freeze-drying and the application of chemical additives for preservation.

However, the effect of these changes has been to increase sharply the vulnerability of the food production supply chain. There are three critically essential inputs to the modern agricultural system: fossil fuels, electricity and water. A disruption to the availability of any, even for a few days, would have serious consequences. There are just not enough people available to milk cows by hand. Equally, if the electricity fails there will be no way to save the bulk of the milk produced. In the absence of water and ventilation, poultry in battery cages and broiler houses would have to be killed. Without fossil fuels it would become extremely difficult to distribute food.

The short-term consequences of any disruption to the system would be noticeable in towns and cities within weeks. We would soon see a sharp reduction in supplies of frozen foods, milk and eggs. While the staple foods such as grain and potatoes would not be so quickly affected, the consequences of disruption for more than six months would be severe. As a conventional war dragged on, the availability of liquid fuels and machinery spares would become even more restricted, with inevitable consequences.

Though Britain managed to survive on a minimal diet during the Second World War this was mainly because a relatively large supply of

food and machinery reached this country from the United States and Canada. Of course, 40 years on, British agriculture has become more efficient and has a greatly increased output. However, modern warfare is also vastly more precise than it was 40 years ago. Even if we totally ignore the nuclear dimension, well-directed attacks on power stations, water treatment plants, spare parts depots and fertilizer factories could completely disrupt our agricultural system, reducing production by perhaps four-fifths. The same would apply elsewhere in the industrialized world. The action of an enemy need not be directed even to food production centres, because power stations, distribution and transport networks and fuel depots would be natural targets in any conflict.

One should not ignore the possible effects of such a breakdown in the food distribution system on ordered behaviour. The possibility of a situation arising in which food was available only to a limited or to a selected part of the population would lead to wide-scale civil disorder. One may equally imagine the effects of hunger on the population of a nation which possesses nuclear weapons but does not wish to use them. If the inhabitants of Leningrad had known of such a major weapon they would eventually have used it, no matter how greatly this offended their moral principles. Hunger is a powerful force.

So, important as it is that the nuclear debate continues, the aim of any rational policy of national security must not confuse itself to avoiding nuclear war or suggest that conventional war is in any way acceptable; it must concentrate on the overriding need to avoid all forms of war.

Sir Hermann Bondi, previously Chief Scientific Advisor to the Ministry of Defence, and Dr Bowman, previously Director of the Centre for Agricultural Strategy, are now chairman and secretary of the Natural Environment Research Council. Jonathan Bates is a freelance writer.

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George Walden

Why we must not desert Belize

In March 1981 I drank a glass or two of champagne in No 1 Carlton Gardens after the negotiation of an outline agreement on the long-standing dispute between Belize and Guatemala. The champagne was a bit sweet, the hour a bit early and the celebration premature. The agreement was later turned down by Guatemala's leaders.

Today, the problems arising from the Guatemalan claim, to the whole territory of Belize are still there. So are the British troops and Harriers "for an appropriate period". But Belize is still there, too, and by Central American standards thriving. Two questions remain: where is it, and why are we still there?

Churchill once said that he did not know where Guatemala (or presumably Belize) was and he was not going to start finding out so late in his life. In fact Belize sits facing Cuba on the Atlantic coast just below Mexico, its frontier with Guatemala suspiciously squared off. It is not seething with subversion, but a stable democracy with unarmed policemen.

George Price, the Prime Minister and leader of the main political party, the People's United Party, is something of an ascetic. A devout Catholic, he drives an old Land-Rover, works hard, and is untaught by corruption. His quiet, serious manner is effective internationally. The economy, based on sugar, fruit, fishing and forestry, has been buffeted by the recession, but has held up reasonably well with aid from Britain, the US, Canada and Mexico. The population is tiny: 150,000.

My fellow champagne drinkers on the Belize side were ethnically variegated. The country is an example of successful miscegenation, with Carib Indians, Hispanics, descendants of black slaves and now some Asians living together with little difficulty. Price himself has Welsh and African ancestors. The country is equally colourful. It is mostly jungle, with village names like "Double Headed Cabbage" and "Banana Bank", huge tarantulas, frogs that jump at you (spring chickens), parrots and Booby birds. The Victorians made furniture from its mahogany, and the Americans chewing gum from its sapodilla trees.

The dispute with Guatemala revolves around an obscure quarrel about a road. The 1859 treaty by which the Guatemalans recognized the frontiers of Belize (then British Honduras) spoke of linking Guatemala City to the Atlantic coast. The British showed willing, but in the end the treaty was denounced by the Guatemalans, who decided to claim the whole of Belize instead. The claim was written into their constitution in 1946, thereby engaging national pride (another reason for not having constitutions).

There seems no reason for Mr Price to save this pride by dismembering his country, especially in the run-up to next year's election, which will be the first since independence in 1981. The British case has been frequently supported by the United Nations Organization, which has now also endorsed Belize's right to independence, self-determination and territorial integrity.

And such is international morality that many of those who accused us of staying too long in our own territory in the South Atlantic would be the first to criticize us for moving too soon out of somebody else's.

The author, Conservative MP for Buckingham, was formerly Lord Carrington's private secretary.

Philip Howard

Dog-knobbler days with the beagles

When August with its driving rain has washed away the heatwave of July, then good hacks long to go on holiday. They have unchained us from our typewriters at the word-factory and we have scattered around the nooks and crannies of the world, blinking a little in the sunlight like canaries escaping from our gilded cages.

The place to go on holiday is somewhere quite different, where people know nothing and care less about the *sturm und drang* of daily journalism, where the phone rings only for talk about country matters, and where the most exciting event of the week is the price of black-faced sheep at the market.

Such a place is darkest Ayrshire, which has been mercifully untouched by history since our rude forefathers of the Stone Age built their circular huts on the damp and barren hills. Agricola's legions passed through and left not a Roman rucksack behind them. There have been covenanters and other little disturbances of life, but the locals were, as usual, too busy resting on the wind, indicating that she would climb no higher.

For a few seconds the falconer contemplated the scene he had orchestrated. In the stillness before the grouse is flushed, there is a tangible sense of communion between the falconer, the dogs standing rigidly on point and the tiny silhouette drawn taut as a bow against the sky.

The grouse burst out of the heather. Melody turned over and drew in her wings, flying like a raptor and parting the air with a sound like tearing paper. There was no sense of violent contact – just a puff of feathers and a dark shape tumbling to the ground. Melody was already plucking the grouse by the time the falconer reached the spot where it had fallen.

Today there will be a race to set the first grouse of the season on some select West End table. If Melody does kill on her first outing, her falconer will not only take vicarious pride in her achievement, but can sit down to eat without having to worry about damaging his teeth on lead shot.

If Melody performs as well as she did on her final flight last season, her owner will be more than compensated for his investment of time and effort, the fruitless days with recalcitrant dogs, the weary searches for a lost hawk. On a gold and mauve evening last October, the two pointers quartered the moor, distantly acknowledging each other as they passed. The ground-eating lope was abruptly checked as both dogs froze on point, trembling as if a

grenade had exploded.

Windsor Chorlton

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That was a use of deer in its original meaning of an animal of any sort; of Shakespeare's "rats and mice and such small deer" where he was not being facetious or cute. The German counterpart of the word, *Tier*, has retained its original meaning of any old animal, as in *Tiergarten*, an animal garden or zoo. In Scottish and English the word has changed its meaning to signify one kind of animal only, the kind with antlers that our Notting Hill beagles chase through the bracken. Diana only knows what they will do if they ever catch up with one.

Up here in Ayrshire the locals are still busy slaughtering animals of all kinds, minding their own business, and letting the rest of the world go by. Not a ripple of the troubles of Central America or the tedious contest for the leadership of the Labour Party disturbs the even tenor of the columns of the local newspaper, which are full of television and football candy floss, and pictures of brides with grooms in kilts and mothers with bonny babies, and the bard stuff of faststock prices.

In short, life in darkest Ayrshire rolls peacefully on much as it has since the Stone Age. Dynasties pass. Fleet Street may be in an uproar. Up here we have more important things to fuss about.

High drama on the moors



Hawking on horseback: a seventeenth-century engraving

that she will be noticeably keener – eying birds invisible to the human eye and grabbing flies out of the air like a gunfighter testing his reflexes.

About noon she will be placed on a set of scales to see if she is at her ideal flying weight: too heavy and she will fly half-heartedly, too light and she will lack the power to get on terms with her quarry. For her journey to the moor she will be fitted with hood and jesses cut to patterns that have hardly changed since the days of the Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II; then she will be equipped with a microchip radio transmitter weighing next to nothing yet capable of emitting signals audible up to nine miles away. She will travel to the moor with two English pointers.

There is a good chance that Melody will not kill a grouse today, but her condition will worsen with each day that she flies, until by the end of the season she will be able to cut through a gale like a knife and kill a grouse stone dead from her first stoop. Last year she took 20 brace of grouse in six weeks. By shooting standards that is a pathetically poor return, but then – clichéd as the sentiment may be – it is not the bag that counts.

If Melody is flown today, she will be taken from her mews in the morning and offered a bath, since a falcon that is flown without bathing is likely to take away in search of water. When she has bathed she will preen – a lengthy process carried out as meticulously as the servicing of a jet fighter. Sometime during the morning she will probably cast up a pellet of undigested feathers and bones from her last meal, and after

currents being passed through her bodily.

Melody was unhooked, but she showed no hurry to fly. She roused and bobbed her head, then, as a breeze caught her, relaxed her grip on the gauntlet and was airborne. She clapped over the dogs' heads and began mounting in wide circles, occasionally looking down to check on the position of the field. At 400 feet she made a narrow turn and rested on the wind, indicating that she would climb no higher.

For a few seconds the falconer contemplated the scene he had orchestrated. In the stillness before the grouse is flushed, there is a tangible sense of communion between the falconer, the dogs standing rigidly on point and the tiny silhouette drawn taut as a bow against the sky.

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Windsor Chorlton

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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WCIX 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

FEUDS IN THE CHOUF

The release of the three kidnapped members of the Lebanese government, though a relief in itself, has certainly not resolved the crisis in the Chouf, that beautiful and fertile area of Mount Lebanon south-east of Beirut in which it is concentrated of the greater part of the country's Druze population.

Kidnapping cabinet ministers may seem an excessively violent and dramatic way to make a political point. Even in Lebanon, such methods cannot be condoned. But this latest of force was not sudden or unprovoked. It merely marked a small escalation in a conflict that has been going on for over a year.

Some would say, for over a century. The conflict between Druze and Maronite, the two historic communities of Mount Lebanon, goes back to the mid nineteenth century, when the Maronite peasantry of the mountain rose in revolt against the feudal shaykhs, most of whom were Druze. In the course of this *jacquerie* massacres occurred, the worst being carried out against the Maronites by Druze shaykhs and their partisans. French intervention then led to the disappearance of the old Emirate of Lebanon with its feudal order and the creation of a more centralised government under a Christian (but non-Lebanese) governor. Many Druzes emigrated to Syria, leaving the Maronites a clear majority.

The remaining Druzes continue to feel they have at least as good a right as the Maronites to regard themselves as the founders and guardians of Lebanese identity, whereas the other communities - Sunnis and Shia Muslims, Maronite Christians - have tended to direct their loyalty towards foci outside Lebanon's frontiers: many, indeed, were only brought within those frontiers by their extension under the French mandate to form the Etat du Grand-Liban.

Regarding each other as authentically Lebanese, Maronite and Druze coexisted fairly successfully until the civil war of

1975 found them on opposite sides, partly because the outstanding Druze leader Kamal Jumblatt found his ambitions frustrated in a political system which gave the dominant role to the Maronites and the secondary one to Sunni Muslims. Jumblatt, a curious mixture of feudal landlord, social democrat, mystic and third-world liberationist, made himself the leader of the Lebanese "left" and formed an alliance with the Palestinian resistance movement in the hope of breaking this confessional system. In the process he antagonised his Maronite compatriots, including those (notably the Phalangists) who shared his ideal of a modernized non-confessional Lebanon but could not stomach his Palestinian allies.

Ironically, it was Maronite resistance but Syrian intervention that deprived Jumblatt of his victory. In fact there was no serious fighting between Maronite and Druze in the Chouf until after Israeli forces occupied the area last year. The Phalangists, at that time allied to Israel, seized the opportunity to send troops into the area, and the Israelis unwisely allowed them to do so. The Phalange was a new element in the Chouf, whose Maronite inhabitants had traditionally been supporters of former President Camille Chamoun; and, by most accounts, the Phalangist interlopers behaved with no great tact.

Their attitude was that of the new masters of Lebanon, rather than people seeking to heal the wounds of civil war and build a new national unity - a unity for which there were then some genuine prospects, since most Druzes and Muslims had come to share their antipathy towards the Palestinians. They insulted Emir Majid Arslan, the aged rival of the Jumblatts, and treated all armed Druzes, of whatever political persuasion, as "communists". Inevitably, a series of armed clashes began.

Many Lebanese believe that this conflict has been deliberately fomented by the Israelis on Lebanon's frontiers: many, indeed, were only brought within those frontiers by their extension under the French mandate to form the Etat du Grand-Liban.

Many Lebanese believe that this conflict has been deliberately fomented by the Israelis on

THE HOW AND WHY OF THE HOW AND WHY

There are good reasons why successive governments should embark on the reorganization of the five research councils, the autonomous agencies which support research in agriculture, medicine, the natural environment, social science and science in general. For in their own estimation, the councils play a central role in the conduct of non-military research in Britain. Collectively, they spend more than £500 million a year on a great variety of activities.

The objective set for the councils is twofold - to enlarge the body of useful knowledge in fields such as agriculture, medicine and, fashionably, information technology, and to complement the support for scientific research in higher education that is normally provided by the University Grants Committee, in which the Science and Engineering Research Council predominates. The Government's recurring difficulty is that these two functions seem always to be unhappily married.

This no doubt is why Sir Ronald Mason has been asked to conduct a one-man inquiry into the organization of the research councils. Evidence that the system is not functioning as

intended has been accumulating for some time. Only last year, the Advisory Board for the Research Councils, which advises on the division of the science budget among the research councils, argued that the dual-support system for university research is breaking down. Part of the reason is that universities are skimping on research support. Meanwhile, doubts have arisen about the clarity of purpose with which the research councils seek to accumulate useful knowledge.

All this implies that the outcome of the last upheaval in the affairs of the research councils, that recommended by Lord Rothschild in 1971, has not worked as intended. The plan was that the applied research carried out by the research councils should be financed not by the Department of Education and Science but by the ministries most directly concerned, which were to equip themselves for their role as "customers" by appointing chief scientists capable of insisting on value for money from their contractors, the research councils. The experience of the past decade has been disappointing.

Sir Ronald Mason thus has a splendid opportunity. The Roth-

THE BULLY OF THE BALTIC

The meeting of Prime Ministers of the Nordic countries which has just occurred in Helsinki resurrected the proposal for a Nordic nuclear-free zone. Promoted by the USSR and its allies since the 1950s, it has had strong advocates in the Nordic countries themselves, particularly in neutral Finland and Sweden. In the Nato members, Norway and Denmark, advocates of the proposal are also to be found. The appeal is emotional rather than logical.

Popular support for a Nordic nuclear-free zone tends to fluctuate with the East-West political climate. Events such as the invasion of Afghanistan, imposition of martial law in Poland, Soviet submarines and bombers violating Scandinavian territory, all make the proposal appear less sensible, while the possible deployment of new US missiles in Western Europe, Soviet counter-threats and general stalemate at the Geneva talks, seem to increase its appeal.

The USSR promotes the concept largely for propaganda purposes in an attempt to present Soviet policy as one of peace. But the possibility, however remote, that Nato could be weakened by banning nuclear weapons from Norway and Denmark even in time of war, is somewhat attractive to be worth some effort. For Nato countries

the idea suffers from fundamental defects: Soviet superiority in conventional forces would present an even greater threat since Nato's flexibility in responding to aggression would be reduced and the deterrent effect of the alliance damaged. The Nordic countries would still be in danger of nuclear attack because of the range of weapons deployed outside the proposed nuclear-free zone.

Soviet divisions in East Germany are equipped with nuclear weapons, and the Leningrad military district has missiles covering the whole Baltic area. In the Kola Peninsula alone there are dozens of airfields, two major bases for land-based nuclear missiles, and port facilities at Murmansk for nuclear-armed submarines.

There seems little possibility that the Kola and Baltic bases of the USSR would be included in any agreement. Appeals circulated clandestinely in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia asking that the peoples of these Soviet-controlled republics be allowed some say in discussions of the Baltic zone have resulted in KGB persecution of those involved. Swedish suggestions that a nuclear-free zone must include inspection of Soviet submarine bases in the Baltic were greeted with stony silence in Moscow.

When the Finnish President

Mauno Koivisto visited Moscow in June to extend the Soviet-Finnish friendship treaty for a further twenty years, the question of freezing the Baltic Sea from nuclear weapons was discussed. However, the only precise Soviet offer in this direction concerns the removal of six Golf class submarines which are already obsolete and likely to be replaced anyway.

Verification of any agreement would be extremely difficult. The USSR has never acknowledged properly Swedish protests about the repeated violations of Sweden's territorial waters by Soviet submarines and the defiant Soviet reply to the public outcry in 1981 when a submarine ran aground near the Karlskrona naval base ignored the government's concern that it was armed with nuclear weapons.

The USSR is the only Baltic country with nuclear bases. The Nato members, Norway and Denmark, do not permit nuclear weapons on their territory in peacetime. Attempts to persuade them to ban Nato allies from bringing such weapons to Scandinavia even in wartime have not been successful, despite the efforts of Soviet diplomacy, communist parties, peace movements and the speeches of the former Finnish President Urho Kekkonen who for decades advocated the nuclear-free zone.

Places in society for young and old

From the Director of Population Concern

Sir, I refer to your article on the cost of pensions for the elderly in the next century (July 30) in which your correspondent expresses the fear that "a low birthrate means it is likely to be accompanied by a shrinking proportion of the population of working age" and that if the birthrate remains low "the burden of supporting the nation's elderly will be even greater".

There is no serious basis for this fear. Children, as well as old people, have to be supported by people of working age and are just as much a "burden" on society.

A rough measure of dependency is the ratio of the number of those people of pensionable age and those under the age of 16 to the population of working age. *Total dependency is lower for a lower birthrate* (given constant death rates for each age group). Even if the birthrate falls, the percentage of the elderly increases at first, their numbers can be known well in advance and planned for accordingly.

On the other hand the financial burden on society of extra children is considerable. Their needs differ from those of the older generation, but they cost no less. Whereas the old incur high costs in pensions, and residential and medical care, the young incur the cost of education and mother-and-child health services.

Bearing in mind that many retired people can still contribute usefully to society, it seems probable that the burden of a dependent child is overall at least as high as that of a retired person.

We should take the long view: once a more or less stable population at a lower size were achieved, the number of old people in the population would also stabilize at a perfectly normal proportion. To conclude that there is a fear of an overwhelming burden of old people is simply wrong. Such a phrase as "The hospital-based training of doctors leaves them ill-equipped to deal with psycho-social disorders" suggests that the authors of the articles have little knowledge of the current medical curriculum or awareness of the role of the psychiatrist.

The leading article admitted that the medical world has enormous

scientific achievements to its credit,

but correctly pointed out that it was not yet possible to treat effectively all diseases. At this point the merits of so-called holistic forms of therapy were promoted and it was suggested that the medical profession repudiated such therapy for dogmatic reasons.

Throughout the article the per-

fectly sound reasons for so-called repudiation are never mentioned. It is right that the claims for any

therapy should be subjected to scientific analysis even though, at present, we do not understand the rationale for the treatment in scientific terms? It is admitted that few controlled experiments have been held.

Your leading article does not

mention the encouragement you will

give to the many unscrupulous

practitioners of medicines and treat-

ments who are out to make a lot of

money from those in ill-health.

Perhaps even more insidious are those who are downright swindlers

or are those who promote "cures" that

can "at least do no harm and may

do some good".

Experienced physicians do not

doubt the impact of the personal

outlook of the patient in the progress

of disease and admit that there are

aspects of the concept of "mind over

matter" that are at present beyond

our understanding. It is right,

therefore, to open these aspects of

medicine to general discussion. But

to promote uncritically the concept

of "alternative medicine" shows that

you fail to understand the multidisci-

plinary approach to medical

education which is not rigidly

controlled by the medical establish-

ment either here or in China.

'Alternative medicine' under scrutiny

From Professor P. N. Campbell

Sir, Although I am not qualified to practice medicine I found your leading article, "Physician, heal thyself" (August 10), deeply disturbing. Following as it did three articles on so-called "alternative medicine" ("Spectrum", August 8, 9, 10) I have to conclude that you set out not only to be provocative but also derogatory of the medical profession in this country.

Yours faithfully,

ERIC McGRAW, Director,

Population Concern,

231 Totternhoe Court Road, W1.

August 9.

From the Director of Age Concern, England, and others

Sir, As four British members of an international working group brought together by the World Health Organization to prepare material on self-care and health promotion among the elderly, we were encouraged to read Robert Bessell's letter (August 6), with its warning about the destructiveness of describing old people as a burden on the working population.

Setting aside the benefits we all

derive from their past endeavours,

in peace and wars, we also recognize

their immense contribution to our

present wellbeing in a number of

ways.

In many cases they do provide

direct economic benefits for their

work, and they are all consumers.

Those who were made to retire on

an arbitrary date cannot then be

blamed for leaving the labour force.

The voluntary sector, properly

valued by the Government, owes

much of its strength to the

accumulated skills and sense of

continuing responsibility of those in

later life.

As it happens, pensioners are the

one group who pay twice for any in-

patient care they receive in hospital

through loss in pension. And, of

equal importance, they provide

stability in family life in practical

ways as carers, as well as the

general links which give us our

sense of continuity.

The contribution of older people

to the arts, humanities, the pro-

fessions and politics is generally

recognized; but those who are less

eminent do much to enrich younger

lives as any fortunate grandchild

could testify.

Yours etc,

DAVID HOBMAN (Age Concern,

England), and others

JOHN HUNTINGTON (Health

Education Council),

SALLY GREENGROSS

(International Federation on

Ageing),

KEITH THOMPSON,

World Health Organization,

Regional Office for Europe,

8 Scherzer,

DK-2000 Copenhagen,

Denmark.

August 6.

Future of barn

From Mr Norman Howard

Sir, Your article on the future of the listed barn at Brockley Hill Farm (feature, July 29) amuses as it was, may have misled

COURT AND SOCIAL

SOCIAL NEWS

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend a reception at Guildhall to mark the golden jubilee of the Milk Marketing Board on November 2. The Prince of Wales, chairman, the Prince of Wales's Committee, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, will attend the Red Dragon Ball, in aid of the committee and the Wales Fund Appeal at Grosvenor House on November 29. Princess Anne, President of the Save the Children Fund, will attend the premiere of *Oliver Twist*, in aid of the Save the Children Fund, at the Classic Cinema, Haymarket, on November 2. Princess Anne, President of the British Olympic Association, will attend a reception to launch the association's appeal at Barclays

Bank, Lombard Street, on November 3. Princess Anne, Patron of the Home Farm Trust, will open the trust's new home at Milton Heights, Milton, Oxfordshire, on November 14. Princess Anne, Patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, will attend the association's 1983 eve of conference dinner at the Redwood Lodge Hotel, Bristol, on November 14. Princess Anne, Patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, will attend the association's national conference and annual meeting at the Grand Hotel, Bristol, on November 15. The Duke of Kent, as president, will visit the Automobile Association's National Training Centre at Wimbley, Nottinghamshire, and as Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, will carry out an industrial visit in the area on November 22.

Forthcoming marriages

Flight Lieutenant P. N. J. Appleby and Miss L. E. Callow

The engagement is announced between Fiers, son of Mr and Mrs John Appleby, of Boldon Hall, West Boldon, Tyne and Wear, and Louise, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Callow, of Maryhill Close, Kenley, Surrey.

Mr F. M. P. Campana and Miss A. J. Gredy

The engagement is announced between Franco Mario, second son of Mr and Mrs Franco Campana, of Cortina, Italy, and Alice Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Gredy, of Oaktree Lane, Gloucestershire.

Clt P. Davis and Miss A. Klitgaard Bertelsen

The engagement is announced between Peter, eldest son of Mr and Mrs R. Davis, of Streatham, London, and Anne, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs F. Klitgaard Bertelsen, of Copenhagen, Denmark.

Mr J. Dunlop and Miss F. C. T. Walker

The engagement is announced between Jack, son of Mr and Mrs J. Dunlop, of Ballantrae, Ayrshire, and Fiona, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs A. I. T. Walker, of Sevenoaks, Kent.

Mr M. R. McV. Gubbins and Miss R. M. Atkins

The engagement is announced between Michael, son of the late Mr R. M. S. Gubbins and of Mrs Jeanette Gubbins, of Old Granary Farm, Little Ouseburn, York, and Rachel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Atkins, of Chase House, Baughurst, Hampshire.

Mr F. B. Hartill and Miss S. J. Miller

The engagement is announced between Francis, elder son of Mr and Mrs T. J. Hartill, of Portland, Dorset, and Amanda, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Lerse, of Pimlico, NW11.

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Birthdays today

Sir Humphrey Atkins, MP, 61; Dame Frances Clode, 80; Air Marshal Sir Maurice Heath, 74; Lord Heycock, 78; General Sir Patrick Howard-Dobson, 62; Sir Anthony Jolliffe, 43; Mr Norris McWhirter, 58; Baroness Phillips, 73; Lord Renfrew, QC, 75; Lord Rhodes, 88; Mr Peter West, 63; Sir Duncan Wilson, 72.

Barbers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Barbers' Company for the ensuing year:

Master: Mr P. H. Champness; Upper Warden: Mr P. Lambert; Middle Warden: Mr J. F. A. Jones; Renter Warden: Mr H. P. Foxon; Deputy Master: Mr W. G. Cross; Clerk: Mr B. W. Hall.

Mr C. W. F. Small and Miss J. D. Bailey

The engagement is announced between Michael, son of the late Mr R. M. S. Gubbins and of Mrs Jeanette Gubbins, of Old Granary Farm, Little Ouseburn, York, and Judith Dorothy, youngest daughter of Mr H. J. Bailey, of Malvern Wells, and the late Mrs Bailey.

Mr A. R. Wood and Miss S. J. Miller

The engagement is announced between Andrew, second son of Mr and Mrs Robert Wood, of Aldwick-Sussex, and Susan, daughter of the late Mr Jack Miller and Mrs Katherine Miller, of Pimlico, NW11.

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THE ARTS

Cinema

Potency of Fassbinder's hot-house imagination

Querelle (18)

Screen on the Hill; Edinburgh Film House

Heaven's Gate

National Film Theatre

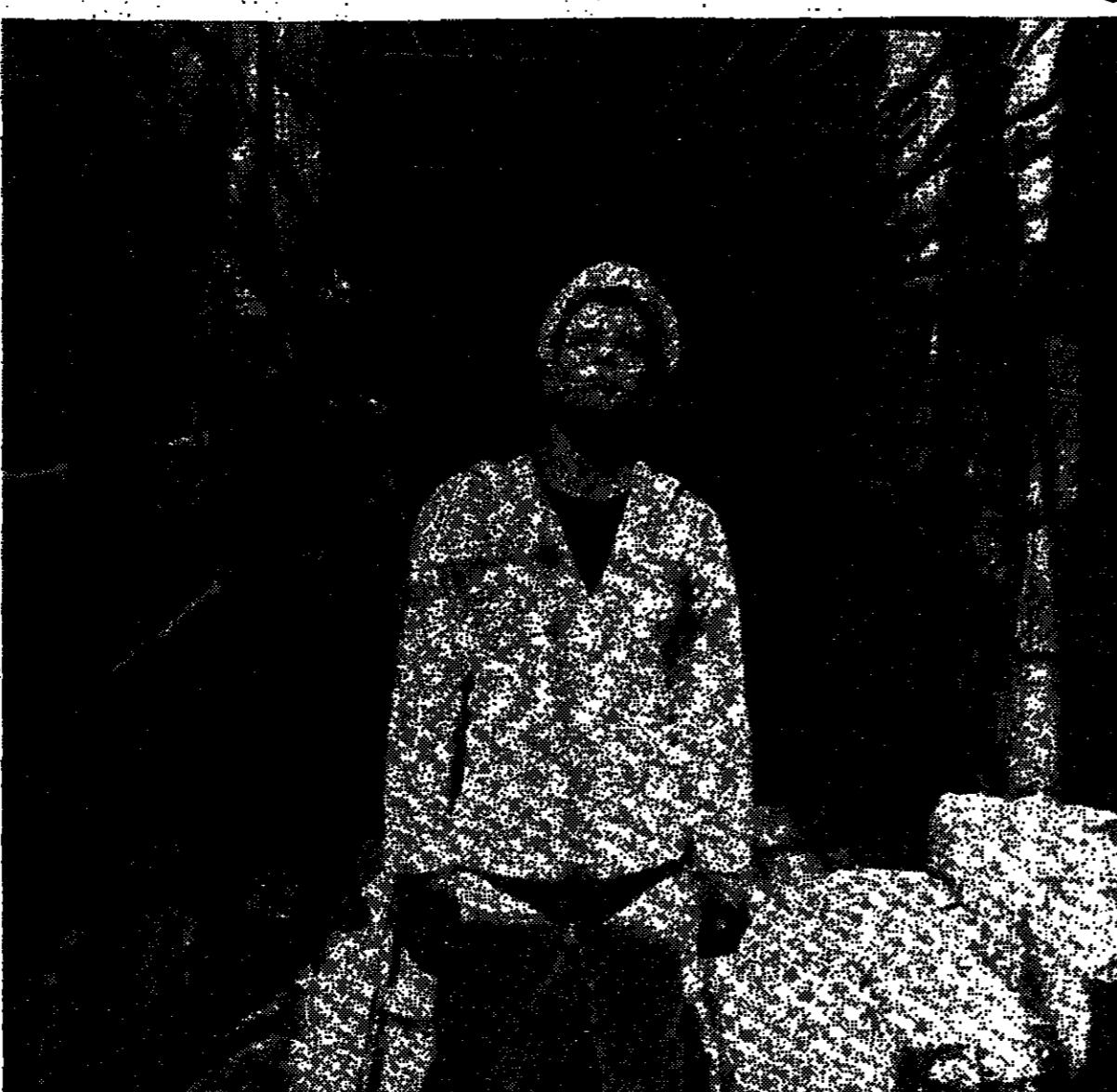
Heartland Reggae (15)

Screen on the Green

The most melancholy moment in Fassbinder's *Querelle* occurs at the very end: a written note about Jean Genet, author of the source novel *Querelle de Brest*, informs us that the date of his death "seems to be near". Genet still lives; it was Fassbinder who died, in June 1982, some months after shooting finished. *Querelle* makes a maddening final testament. Images drip with visual audacity; homosexual passion and society's underbelly are explored with the director's customary dedication. But the film's bold method ultimately enfeebles its dramatic strength: after 105 minutes, the style that astonished has become the style that bores. Frustration is heightened by the particular print on display. For, after festival showings with the original English dialogue, we are unexpectedly offered a German soundtrack and English subtitles - a version originally prepared for the American market. The effect is ridiculous and harmful.

Yet no amount of irritation can completely destroy the potency of Fassbinder's hot-house world. *Querelle* takes us where no film has trodden before. We are put down into an airless, artificial world set about with stone walls, phallic towers and a blazing orange sky. A hotel-cum-brothel seethes with frosted glass and muscular idlers in eccentric fashions; sailors' caps are adorned with red pom-poms; policemen dress in studded black leather. The soundtrack offers comparable oddities: hypnotically repeated choral phrases, motor-bike drones, the screech and whoop of pinball machines.

Fassbinder deliberately chose to bathe his adaptation in surreal sights and sounds to extract the private fantasy lurking within Genet's tangled plot about a self-regarding, beautiful sailor surrounded by murder and deceit. But one person's fantasy is rarely another's and *Querelle* finally places us in the position of observers at a masquerade party to which invitations have been denied. As the

Brad Davis, all at sea surrounded by murder and deceit in *Querelle*

camera wanders and the colour filters shift, we suddenly catch sight of familiar performers, all at sea: Brad Davis, the unfortunate hero of *Midnight Express*; Franco Nero; Jeanne Moreau, occasionally, and foolishly, bursting into song. Happier films, no doubt, await each and every one; for Fassbinder, alas, they were all in the past. (The London opening, incidentally, has been delayed until next Thursday, though Edinburgh Film House audiences can see the film from Sunday.)

Judging by the vicious drubbing it

received in 1980, *Heaven's Gate* might well have become Michael Cimino's last film, too. American critics massed like buzzards to gnaw at Hollywood's latest golden boy (his previous film, *The Deer Hunter*, won five Oscars). Cimino's financiers, United Artists, wrung their hands over the inflated budget and seeming abuse of artistic freedom. The film was promptly haulled in for repairs and some 60 minutes cut from the three-and-a-half-hour running time. This shortened version made its London debut in September 1981,

and quietly departed shortly afterwards. Luckily there is more to the story: as the resurrection of *Napoleon* proves, the length and lifespan of films are not necessarily determined by their original merchants, and the complete *Heaven's Gate* can now be witnessed at the National Film Theatre (tomorrow until Tuesday, two performances daily).

The extra footage, it must be said, does not substantially change the film's nature, virtues or vices. The epic account of land barons and

reggae, the film usefully gathers the movement's great names (including Bob Marley and Jacob Miller) and points a finger at the social context. But no encouragement is offered to unbelievers; as "Whip Them Jah" gives way to "Legalise It, Yeah" (a reference to marijuanna), even Anne Ziegler and Webster Booth seem preferable.

immigrants clashing in late nineteenth-century Wyoming is still presented in gorgeous visual chunks, linked with token squirts of narrative glue. John Hurt's wasted intellectual still appears intermittently with the grating effect of a stone in a shoe. But the film eminently deserves another chance at its proper length, for few Hollywood products of recent decades have satisfied so well the spectator's basic craving for sitting back and gawping at the silver screen.

Cimino flaunts his visual treasure-chest with childlike delight. Observe the way he shows off his extraordinary set of Casper town: Vilmos Zsigmond's camera begins in the railway stationmaster's office, dashes on to the platform where a bulking train usefully steams in, then crosses the tracks to the towering buildings and milling crowds beyond; the set, moreover, is scarcely seen again.

But *Heaven's Gate* is not only a delirious spectacle mounted with anachronistic luxury; there are ideas and characters for consideration. Considering their fragile dialogue, most of the performers work wonders. Kris Kristofferson's nonchalant charisma serves him admirably as the conscientious marshal striving to avoid conflict; Sam Waterston's cattle baron stalks effectively in satanic black; Isabelle Huppert, source of a triangular romance, is touchingly natural. Cimino's ideas have, however, less luck: the concepts of civilizing the wilderness and educating America, first raised in Joseph Cotten's opening Harvard address, struggle with some difficulty through the visual set-pieces. One emerges from the complete *Heaven's Gate* dubious, perhaps, about its intellectual worth, but dazzled and moved by cinema's magnetic power.

Back to mundane fare: *Heartland Reggae* is an artless compilation of concert footage shot in Jamaica during 1977 and 1978, narrated by a chuckling voice who wisely remains anonymous. For students and fans of reggae, the film usefully gathers the movement's great names (including Bob Marley and Jacob Miller) and points a finger at the social context. But no encouragement is offered to unbelievers; as "Whip Them Jah" gives way to "Legalise It, Yeah" (a reference to marijuanna), even Anne Ziegler and Webster Booth seem preferable.

Geoff Brown

● Nicholas Wapshot interviews Michael Cimino, director of *Heaven's Gate*, page 6.



Intensity and guts: Ron Cook, Carolyn Pickles

Theatre

The Dillen
Other Place

Emerging at the end of Ron Hutchinson's play (and after a three-and-a-half-hour ramble round the fringes of Stratford) with time to do little more than a bare report, I can at least record a job well done and plead with the RSC to revive it next year. It is a golden opportunity for them to capture the all-too-elusive local audience; *The Dillen* is not simply the life story of a great local character but, in large part, the story of a hundred years in the town's life.

George Hewins was born in the workhouse, and on the wrong side of the blanket, within a few weeks of the 1879 opening of the first Memorial Theatre. He lived to be 98 in spirit of being a little rumbustious, crammed into a tent in a bare field on the far side of town, not all of us saw all of it, but the shells exploding in the scrub behind the grim-faced George, a dim glimpse of stretcher-bearers and snipers in the distance and John Leonard's sound effects were all we needed.

Simply as a feat of organization the production is an unimaginable achievement, but Barry Kyle also finds a few scenes for a director to get his teeth into. The war scene in particular is marvellous; crammed into a tent in a bare field on the far side of town, not all of us saw all of it, but the shells exploding in the scrub behind the grim-faced George, a dim glimpse of stretcher-bearers and snipers in the distance and John Leonard's sound effects were all we needed.

Ron Cook, who a few minutes earlier had been having the time of his life in a music hall knees-up, and had got through 15 years of ever more children and poverty in a few minutes, rose superbly to that scene. For his intensity and guts as much as his size, he is perfect casting. So is Peggy Mount as his great-aunt guardian Cal, indomitably dispensing wisdom: "Never be afraid of the dead, my lad. They can't hurt you. It's the living as does that!"

It leaves you wishing that every theatre festival in a country town could come up with a celebration that shows the hardest side of local history with such grit and humour. But most other George Hewinses took the story with them to their graves. Stratford owes him thanks and is paying the debt.

Anthony Masters

Promenade Concert
Cultivated Mozart

BBCSO/Leitner

Albert Hall/Radio 3

Now in his seventies, the Berlin-born conductor Ferdinand Leitner made his Prom debut on Wednesday in a programme which was obviously, and often quite delightfully, right up his *strasse*.

His Mozart, as we heard in the first half, is circumstantial, cultivated and affectionate; the benevolent assertiveness and aphoristic grace of the opening movement of his Symphony No 36, the "Linz", gave the lie to Wagner's sneer about the rarity of dinner plates at a banquet. Modulations of harmony and metre were made obviously; never didactically apparent, with even the *Presto* unfolding with a gentle inevitability of intent.

This discreetly illuminating approach can be crucially revealing of ensemble: with some fine, silverpoint wind solos, the BBC Symphony Orchestra almost unfailingly stood up to close scrutiny both here and in the Violin Concerto No 3 in G in which Eugene Srujan wrote immediately after *Jerusalem*.

Now a gloss, and a high one at that, grew over Leitner's

painstaking direction: each note of Mr Srujan's opening Allegro quivered with tense, bright, nervous energy, phrases sharp and staccato, bowing short and light, and with a cadenza which epitomized the reading's capriciousness.

The tension between Srujan's finessing, even glistery playing and Leitner's meticolousness gave the Adagio a fragile but edgy beauty and made the fusing tempi of the final Rondeau as much of a battle of nerves as of wits.

After the interval, the ear had to adapt from the tinder brightness of Srujan's Mozart to the duller embers of Leitner's Brahms, in a performance of the *St Anthony Variations* which communicated more dute than joy. The fun was reserved for Johann Strauss II - or so the arena determined it should be.

Exulting in Leitner's pith, even reverential readings of the Cossy Barou Overture, the Intermezzo from *1001 Nights* and the *Emperor Waltz*, and undeterred by their comparative lack of clasp, waltzers and boppers alike turned, twirled and applauded more than in all the Mozart put together.

Hilary Finch

Hilary Finch introduces South Bank Summer Music, which begins on Sunday with Janáček's little-known opera *Osud*

however, in which questions about the sale - or at least use - of their expertise were deflected, it was clear that a decade's furious campaigning by *Time Out* and the *New Statesman* had gone for naught and that that notorious Penguin *Warwick University Limited* might as well have gone unpublished.

Collins went so far as to say that, in view of the disparity between academic and industrial salaries, it was incumbent on dons to put in some substantial moonlighting, say

60 days a year. Slightly haggard and owlish (or was it the camerawork?), he was confident that his "interfacing with industry" could only benefit his students. The impression given by the film (all it gave were impressions) was indeed of a cheerful and purposeful departmental community.

Ericsson's haggard looks seemed more than adequately explained by the life he leads - maintaining his dominance as a world authority on Soviet strategy, making speeches to US naval top brass in Connec-

ticut, giving austere student tutorials, and all with the support of a single secretary. He has also built up a micro-film and journal archive of international repute (a beaming Max Hastings was seen consulting it), "paid for out of my own pocket". Whatever the depth of that pocket, British administrators must have been given food for thought by the contrast between the red carpet rolled out by his American admirers and the chicken coop provided at home.

Michael Church

Sir Peter Hall to be Glyndebourne artistic director

Glyndebourne began in May 1934 with two Mozart operas, *Le nozze di Figaro* and *Così fan tutte*. Both works will be in the fifth birthday season next summer, in revivals of Sir Peter Hall's productions.

Sir Peter, whose appointment as Glyndebourne's new artistic director has just been announced, is also responsible for the first new production of the company, Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea*, which will be conducted by Raymond Leppard and designed by John

is Benjamin Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Glyndebourne's two major commercial sponsors next summer are IBM (*Poppea*) and John Player (*Arabella*). EMI will also be involved in the fifth birthday celebrations: the company is to record Glyndebourne's *Don Giovanni*, conducted by Bernard Haitink, next January. The cast is led by Thomas Allen (Giovanni), Richard Van Allan (Leporello), Maria Ewing (Elvira) and Carol Vaness (Anna).

on tour, I was desperate to hear the Sinfonietta play it. I've rarely had such withdrawal symptoms from a piece."

And then Sibelius. The symphony cycle which will span August 18, 21 and 28 is something that has obsessed Rattle ever since his very first concert with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. The orchestra now has a feeling of possession about the music - I really do think they know it better than any other orchestra, except possibly in Finland. Of course, we've had the opportunity to rehearse and play in Birmingham in a way that's just not possible in London. Birmingham and its orchestra remain Rattle's first love. "When they're playing at their best, I wouldn't be anywhere else in the world." Next year they will record Mahler's *Das klagen Lied* and the Schoenberg orchestration of the Brahms G minor Piano Quartet, one of Rattle's own favourite works, which the London Sinfonietta will be performing on August 27.

At the moment Rattle is cutting down on guest conducting - "perhaps just once a year there'll be a visit to Cleveland to teach me a bit more about conducting" - and turning more to opera, with plans ahead for the English National Opera and for a *Manzoni* in Scotland. "And I want a lot more free time - to have a family and learn things better. Overwork dogs all of us now and interpretations are showing it. A lot of a conductor's life should be follow - and that's impossible on a jet-propelled career."

● The Starry Theatre of Cray, following its appearance in the Edinburgh Festival, presents its *Nastasia Filipova* at Riverside Studios from September 6 to 11. The show, based upon the final chapters of Dostoevsky's *The Idiot*, is directed by Andrzej Wajda, and stars Jerzy Radziwillowicz, best known in Britain for his performance in Wajda's film *Man of Marble*.

● Sir David Willcocks is to retire at the end of next year, from his post as Director of the Royal College of Music.

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A world unlike any other



Rattle (left) and Janáček: "It's a must"

In his last year as artistic director of South Bank Summer Music, Simon Rattle will be presenting in the opening concert on Sunday the first public performance in Britain of *Osud*, or *Fate*, the little-known opera Janáček wrote immediately after *Jerusalem*. The work was never performed in Janáček's lifetime; it had to wait for its premiere on Brno Radio until 1934; and it was first staged, and then only in a much rearranged version, in Brno and Stuttgart in 1958. František Šípek, who conducted the Brno performance, recorded the work in 1975-76 with the Brno Janáček Opera in an entirely illuminating and untempered version (Supraphon 12 2011/2); but its only authentic staged performance was in the 1978 production by the opera company of České Budějovice, and only then was the vocal score published.

Osud, to a large extent brought its own fate upon itself. Not only does the awkward timescale of the piece, with its final act's opera within an opera, make its dramatic intention obscure, but the entire subject matter was too close for comfort. The story, a true one, about the destructive triangular relationship between a young girl, her vengeful composer-lover and her mad mother, found resonances within Janáček's own life, which brought him too near the libretto to see its confusion and inconsistencies. So it is a concert performance première in Czech not putting an immense strain on both the audience and the work itself.

"For a start, the audience will have a synopsis and translation", says Simon Rattle. "But the music is great enough to carry it; the story doesn't actually need to add up to a perfect Germanic equation. Anyway, it's no sadder than *Trovatore* and we've got used to that. What's so important is that the depth of connections in Janáček came from this piece, connections which he had to develop a great deal later.

"About a couple of years ago,

Olivier Knussen played me - and the beginning of the score - and from the word go it's obvious

that we're into a world unlike any other. Already the orchestra has changed completely from the Dvorák-like, heavily scored *Trovatore*. Suddenly the clarity of the *Vixen* is there - and so are the extraordinary difficulties. This is the first piece in which Janáček's style sprang forward: the use of fourths, the speech rhythms - they all belong to the late Janáček, and not in experimental form, but fully grown.

It's crucial that the piece is played, and I hope it'll be just the first of a series of performances, so that people can see that the late works were not a phenomenon of the last five or

six years, but that this was the start of it all. I'm hoping that Welsh and Scottish operas will come and take it up. In a country where Janáček is so well loved it's a must."

Rattle grew to love Janáček when he was a child in Liverpool, a city which, under the batons of Sir Charles Mackerras and Sir Charles Groves, was an early pioneer of his music. Excerpts from *The Cunning Little Vixen* will be performed on August 20. "Having lived so long with the work, playing it at the Royal Academy, doing 20 performances at Glyndebourne, and

Investment
and
Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ
Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 725.9 up 0.5
FT Gifts: 78.90 up 0.9
FT All Shares: 456.53
Bargains: 19.349
Datstream USM Leaders
Index: 100.27 up 1.28
New York: Dow Jones
Average: (latest) 1174.59
down 1.39
Tokyo Stock Exchange
Index: 657.33 up 2.43
Hongkong: Hang Seng
Index: 1040.58 up 10.84
Amsterdam: 150.7 up 2.8
Sydney: ASX Index: 663.3 up
3.2
Frankfurt: Commerzbank
Index: 334.80 up 2.6
Brussels: General
Index: 128.52 up 1.25
Paris: CAC Index: 131.2 up
1.0
Zurich: SKA General: 293.9
up 0.1

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.4800 down 20 pcts
Index 84.9 down 0.1
DM 4.0450 up 0.002
Fr 12.1625 up 0.0225
Yen 364.50 unchanged
Dollar
Index 130.5 up 0.5
DM 2.7325

NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.4795
INTERNATIONAL
ECU \$0.563521
SDR \$0.702698

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9.1%
Finance houses base rate 10.1%
Discount: market loans week
fixed 9.1%
3 month interbank 10.91%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10.1-10.5%
3 month DM 5.95-5.91%
3 month Fr 15.5-15.4%
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9.5%, Treasury long
bond 9.5-8.99-3.4%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period 6 July to 2
August, 1983 inclusive: 9.989
per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$411.15 pm \$411.75
close \$412.25-413 (\$278.75-
279) up \$3.25
New York latest: \$411.75
Krugerrand (per coin):
\$425-426.50 (\$287-287.50)
Sovereigns (new):
\$97.98 (\$65.50-66.25)
*Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interims: Alliance Trust, Ault
and Wiborg, Prestige Group.
Finals: Owen and Robinson.
Economic statistics: Retail
sales index (July). Tax-price
index (July). Usable steel
production (July). Index of
industrial production (June –
Provisional).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Annual Meetings: Memory
Computer, Berkeley Court
Hotel, Lansdowne Road, Dub-
lin 4 (11.00).

Steel production in the
public and private sectors rose
by 5 per cent last month
compared with an average of
337,300 tonnes a week a year
ago. In the first seven months of
the year the weekly average was
290,500 tonnes, about 3 per
cent down on the same period
of last year.

Plessey has won the contract
to install and manage the
electronics and communications
equipment for the new
Falklands airport. This is the
first time the Ministry of
Defence has let a contract to a
commercial company to coordinate
the technical work at a
military airfield. Plessey
results page 17

Mr Jack Gill is to take over
secretary of the Export Credits
Guarantee Department when
Mr Kenneth Taylor retires next
month. He is director of the
Department of Industry's Indus-
trial Development Unit and a former
secretary of the Monopolies and
Mergers Commission.

A half was called to deal in
the shares of William
Whittingham, the housebuilding
and film processing group
which is expected today to
announce agreed bid terms with
one of two companies with
which it has been talking.
Tarmac is tipped by the stock
market as the company concerned.

Workers-shareholders in the
National Freight Consortium,
the company sold by the state to
its workforce last year, are to get
their third interim dividend this
year.

Investment and Finance

Car production lifts GKN: domestic appliances help TI

Profit increases by big engineering groups boost recovery hopes

By Our Financial Staff

Great Keen & Nettofields Two of Britain's main engineering companies provided evidence yesterday that they were beginning to recover from recession.

Great Keen & Nettofields, the largest engineering company in the country, reported that increased car production was boosting demand for components, helping the group to turn in half-time pretax profits of £28.1m, compared with £20.5m for the same period last year.

And engineers, TI Group, showed, in a report of mixed news, that strong consumer demand for domestic appliances helped to produce half-time pretax profits of £6.2m, compared with £3.9m a year earlier and £600,000 in the second half of 1982.

TI Group, Sir Trevor Hol-
dsworth, chairman, said that the modest increase in activity which the company was enjoying should be sustained.

The group's figures come
after four painful years of
recession and after the work-
force has been nearly halved
since 1979.

A measure of the improved
performance was that £28.1m of
pretax profits were achieved in
the second quarter of the year
and that the company is

continuing to trade at this
improved level.

After the severe downturn in
business activity in the second
half of 1982, GKN's British
activities benefited from a
gradual improvement in the
economy and from the group's
restructuring.

In particular, the automotive
components companies benefited
from higher British and
American car production and
improved productivity. But
demand from commercial and
agricultural vehicle companies
remained low.

TI Group's formal offer for AE
will be sent to shareholders
within the next week. Both sides
appear confident that the £6.7m
takeover bid will go through
despite efforts by brokers
Laurence Prust urging share-
holders to reject it.

TI Group
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £26.2m (23.9m)
Statutory earnings 5.9p (loss 2.4p)
Turnover £297.5m (£280.8m)
Net interim dividend 4p (same)
Share price 179p, down 5p Yield 6.2%

At TI, domestic appliances
were strong, there was a much-
reduced loss in cycles and a
recent improvement in machine
tools. The group is confident
that second-half profits will
show continued progress.

But TI's shares lost 6p to 160
as the most optimistic fore-
casters of the group's recovery
were disappointed by continuing
bad news on the steel tubes
and a dull performance by
the specialized engineering divi-
sion.

Group turnover was virtually
unchanged at £442.2m and the

interim dividend is being
maintained at 2.5p.

It points out that the first half
profit improvement is greater
than the figures suggest since
these take into account the
charging of £700,000 redundancy
costs, hitherto treated as
extraordinary items.

Trading profits on this basis
were unchanged from a year
earlier at £14.1m, but interest
charges fell to £8.1m against
£10.4m in the first half of 1982.

The consumer boom sent
group sales of domestic appli-
ances up 50 per cent.

The mixed bag of specialized
engineering businesses will
benefit in the second half from
the recent brightening in ma-
chine tool demand.

The big problem remains
with steel tubes.

Investors' Notebook, page 14

City Editor's Comment

Excusing 'spender of last resort'

As the dollar continues to
scale new heights against
the Deutsche mark and the
franc, it is hardly surprising
that apologists are

surfacing in greater numbers
to justify this apparently
abysmal state of affairs.

This is a sort of free
market version of the
locomotive theory and is
open to the same objections
that, as evidenced by Ameri-
can second quarter

growth, it can set up an
unsustainable or inflationary
type of world recovery.

Other countries can object
that America's absorption
of funds and high interest
rates detract as much from
others' growth as US imports
add.

But such theoretical nice-
ties are really beside the
point. The real threat posed
by the huge advance of the
dollar since 1981 is that it
will destabilize world

finances. The very fact that
America has accidentally
adopted the locomotive role
is a reminder that capital
flows rule the currency
roost these days. Capital
movements in the major
currencies today affect
trade patterns more than
the other way round – as
Britain discovered in 1981.

As the apologists con-
cede, the dollar's rise must
eventually end if the rest of
the world is to take a full
part in world recovery and
American manufacturers are
to avoid intolerable
pressure or protectionism.
If the dollar then gradually
subsides, that might be fine.
But that seems a
distant hope.

As soon as the trend
peters out, it will reverse
itself and if recent behav-
iour in the exchanges is
anything to go by it will
reverse itself with a ven-
geance.

If the dollar fell on the
same scale as it has risen, it
would disrupt the trade of
other countries and could
cripple American expansion
in the absence of huge
cuts in US budget deficits.
Yet there is little to stop a
dollar collapse once it
starts. That is why a
recovery built on the need
for an illogically high and
rising dollar is a recovery
built on sand.

British bank delay on Argentine loan

By Peter Wilson-Smith Banking Correspondent

British banks will not go
ahead with today's planned
signing of the long-delayed
\$1.500m (£1,014.5m) loan for
Argentina but other banks will
be encouraged to go ahead and
sign the agreement. It is
hoped that British banks will
add their signatures later.

One of the main problems
behind the delay has been
continuing Argentine restrictions
on British companies remitting
dividends from Argentina. The British
Government is now seeking to check
that companies have been able to
take money out of the country before
giving the go-ahead with their
part of the loan.

The Bank of England is
understood to be monitoring
progress of a number of large
British companies including
Rio-Tinto Zinc and Shell in
trying to take dividends out of
Argentina. However, it was
unclear last night how much
progress had been made.

British banks including the
four big clearers are due to
provide about \$150m of the
\$1.5bn loan which was origi-
nally due to have been signed
in May but has been delayed by
a succession of problems.

Spring Grove takeover

By Wayne Listott

Spring Grove, the troubled
cleaning group which said last
week that it was in takeover
talks, has reached agreement
with Sunlight Service Group.

Sunlight will pay an estimated
£16m for the laundry group
which has seen profits drop
sharply. Spring Grove said
that any bid would fall
short of yesterday's 54p share
price.

At the time of the takeover
the value of St George's was in
dispute among Spring Grove
advisers. Sector analysts believe
Spring Grove paid too much for
the group and thus stretched
resources when it needed to
maintain cash flow at a time of
increased competition.

Suggestions that there could
be a takeover fight for Spring
Grove look unfounded.

Shares slip in active trading

By Our Finance Staff

company, last year. But instead
of the expected £700,000 profit
contribution from St George's,
Spring Grove found poor
accounting controls.

Spring Grove inherited losses
and write-offs totalling
£800,000 over a six-month
period and was consulting legal
advisers in June.

At the time of the takeover
the value of St George's was in
dispute among Spring Grove
advisers. Sector analysts believe
Spring Grove paid too much for
the group and thus stretched
resources when it needed to
maintain cash flow at a time of
increased competition.

Spring Grove's profits peaked
in 1980 at £3.8m. Last year they
dropped by £1m to £2.5m.

Spring Grove paid £7.5m for
St George's Group, the laundry



Saudis raise production targets

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

The prospects of stable oil
prices throughout the coming
winter and possibly until mid-
1985 have emerged after the
adoption of new price and
production targets by Saudi
Arabia. Sheikh Yamani, the Saudi oil minister,
has headed off price increases
from other members of the
Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries by proposing
and winning approval for an
increase in the present production
ceiling of 17.5 million barrels a day at an emergency
meeting of Opec ministers at Taif, Saudi Arabia.

Several Opec members had
hoped that the Western world's
pre-winter stocking would lead to
prices rising above the present
\$23-a-barrel benchmark.

Faced with domestic problems of
payments, several members of the Opec
ministerial committee had hoped to
force an overall increase in
current Rotterdam spot-market
prices of around \$31.30 a barrel.

However, Sheikh Yamani
presumpted price rises by announcing that Saudi
Arabia would step up its oil
production above the 5 million
barrels a day level agreed at the
March Opec meeting.

Saudi output acts as an Opec
"swing producer" and can
quickly be used to regulate
market demand.

P&O confirms Sterling

By Our Finance Staff

Mr Jeffrey Sterling was
yesterday confirmed as chairman
of the Peninsular & Oriental
Steam Navigation Company. He replaces Lord
Inchcape on November 1, but
will start tackling P & O's

defence against the £300m
takeover bid from Trafalgar
House immediately.

Trafalgar is headed by an old
adversary, Mr Nigel Brookes.
He and Mr Sterling have known
each other for years, both
emerging into the spotlight from
property deals in the early
1970s.

Mr Sterling's own company
was caught in the mid-seventies
property crash of Town and
Country, which he effectively
rescued and has only now pulled
back to a point where the self-
funding

chunk of BP shares with City
institutions at a price believed
to be in the region of 37.5p. The
recent strong advance in oil
prices, reinforced again yesterday
by Shell's better than
expected results, means that the
Government is now poised to
obtain a better price with its
planned offer for sale than it
would have done with its
placing.

The timing and pricing of
large share issues are complex
and sensitive political decisions,
as last year's British and
Amersham International priva-
tization MPs.

BP's shares have risen by
more than 10 per cent from
390p to 440p in under three
weeks since Mr Nigel Lawson,
the Chancellor, announced on
July 25 that the share sale was

pending.

Investors' notebook, page 14

Oils jump as Shell income tops £1.3bn

By Our Energy Correspondent

Shell, the world's second largest oil company, has reported higher-than-expected half-year profits.

Net income in the second quarter, at £621m, was £1

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		D-MARK		SHELL	
Other turnover figures.		1981-70	200	1973	
Prices in pounds per metric ton		1982-71	-	1974	
Silver in dollars per ounce		1983-72	-	1975	
Gold in dollars per ounce		1984-73	-	1976	
Lead in dollars per ton		1985-74	-	1977	
tin in dollars per ton		1986-75	-	1978	
tin in dollars per ton		1987-76	-	1979	
tin in dollars per ton		1988-77	-	1980	
tin in dollars per ton		1989-78	-	1981	
tin in dollars per ton		1990-79	-	1982	
tin in dollars per ton		1991-80	-	1983	
tin in dollars per ton		1992-81	-	1984	
tin in dollars per ton		1993-82	-	1985	
tin in dollars per ton		1994-83	-	1986	
tin in dollars per ton		1995-84	-	1987	
tin in dollars per ton		1996-85	-	1988	
tin in dollars per ton		1997-86	-	1989	
tin in dollars per ton		1998-87	-	1990	
tin in dollars per ton		1999-88	-	1991	
tin in dollars per ton		2000-89	-	1992	
tin in dollars per ton		2001-90	-	1993	
tin in dollars per ton		2002-91	-	1994	
tin in dollars per ton		2003-92	-	1995	
tin in dollars per ton		2004-93	-	1996	
tin in dollars per ton		2005-94	-	1997	
tin in dollars per ton		2006-95	-	1998	
tin in dollars per ton		2007-96	-	1999	
tin in dollars per ton		2008-97	-	2000	
tin in dollars per ton		2009-98	-	2001	
tin in dollars per ton		2010-99	-	2002	
tin in dollars per ton		2011-00	-	2003	
tin in dollars per ton		2012-01	-	2004	
tin in dollars per ton		2013-02	-	2005	
tin in dollars per ton		2014-03	-	2006	
tin in dollars per ton		2015-04	-	2007	
tin in dollars per ton		2016-05	-	2008	
tin in dollars per ton		2017-06	-	2009	
tin in dollars per ton		2018-07	-	2010	
tin in dollars per ton		2019-08	-	2011	
tin in dollars per ton		2020-09	-	2012	
tin in dollars per ton		2021-10	-	2013	
tin in dollars per ton		2022-11	-	2014	
tin in dollars per ton		2023-12	-	2015	
tin in dollars per ton		2024-13	-	2016	
tin in dollars per ton		2025-14	-	2017	
tin in dollars per ton		2026-15	-	2018	
tin in dollars per ton		2027-16	-	2019	
tin in dollars per ton		2028-17	-	2020	
tin in dollars per ton		2029-18	-	2021	
tin in dollars per ton		2030-19	-	2022	
tin in dollars per ton		2031-20	-	2023	
tin in dollars per ton		2032-21	-	2024	
tin in dollars per ton		2033-22	-	2025	
tin in dollars per ton		2034-23	-	2026	
tin in dollars per ton		2035-24	-	2027	
tin in dollars per ton		2036-25	-	2028	
tin in dollars per ton		2037-26	-	2029	
tin in dollars per ton		2038-27	-	2030	
tin in dollars per ton		2039-28	-	2031	
tin in dollars per ton		2040-29	-	2032	
tin in dollars per ton		2041-30	-	2033	
tin in dollars per ton		2042-31	-	2034	
tin in dollars per ton		2043-32	-	2035	
tin in dollars per ton		2044-33	-	2036	
tin in dollars per ton		2045-34	-	2037	
tin in dollars per ton		2046-35	-	2038	
tin in dollars per ton		2047-36	-	2039	
tin in dollars per ton		2048-37	-	2040	
tin in dollars per ton		2049-38	-	2041	
tin in dollars per ton		2050-39	-	2042	
tin in dollars per ton		2051-40	-	2043	
tin in dollars per ton		2052-41	-	2044	
tin in dollars per ton		2053-42	-	2045	
tin in dollars per ton		2054-43	-	2046	
tin in dollars per ton		2055-44	-	2047	
tin in dollars per ton		2056-45	-	2048	
tin in dollars per ton		2057-46	-	2049	
tin in dollars per ton		2058-47	-	2050	
tin in dollars per ton		2059-48	-	2051	
tin in dollars per ton		2060-49	-	2052	
tin in dollars per ton		2061-50	-	2053	
tin in dollars per ton		2062-51	-	2054	
tin in dollars per ton		2063-52	-	2055	
tin in dollars per ton		2064-53	-	2056	
tin in dollars per ton		2065-54	-	2057	
tin in dollars per ton		2066-55	-	2058	
tin in dollars per ton		2067-56	-	2059	
tin in dollars per ton		2068-57	-	2060	
tin in dollars per ton		2069-58	-	2061	
tin in dollars per ton		2070-59	-	2062	
tin in dollars per ton		2071-60	-	2063	
tin in dollars per ton		2072-61	-	2064	
tin in dollars per ton		2073-62	-	2065	
tin in dollars per ton		2074-63	-	2066	
tin in dollars per ton		2075-64	-	2067	
tin in dollars per ton		2076-65	-	2068	
tin in dollars per ton		2077-66	-	2069	
tin in dollars per ton		2078-67	-	2070	
tin in dollars per ton		2079-68	-	2071	
tin in dollars per ton		2080-69	-	2072	
tin in dollars per ton		2081-70	-	2073	
tin in dollars per ton		2082-71	-	2074	
tin in dollars per ton		2083-72	-	2075	
tin in dollars per ton		2084-73	-	2076	
tin in dollars per ton		2085-74	-	2077	
tin in dollars per ton		2086-75	-	2078	
tin in dollars per ton		2087-76	-	2079	
tin in dollars per ton		2088-77	-	2080	
tin in dollars per ton		2089-78	-	2081	
tin in dollars per ton		2090-79	-	2082	
tin in dollars per ton		2091-80	-	2083	
tin in dollars per ton		2092-81	-	2084	
tin in dollars per ton		2093-82	-	2085	
tin in dollars per ton		2094-83	-	2086	
tin in dollars per ton		2095-84	-	2087	
tin in dollars per ton		2096-85	-	2088	
tin in dollars per ton		2097-86	-	2089	
tin in dollars per ton		2098-87	-	2090	
tin in dollars per ton		2099-88	-	2091	
tin in dollars per ton		2100-89	-	2092	
tin in dollars per ton		2101-90	-	2093	
tin in dollars per ton		2102-91	-	2094	
tin in dollars per ton		2103-92	-	2095	
tin in dollars per ton		2104-93	-	2096	
tin in dollars per ton		2105-94	-	2097	
tin in dollars per ton		2106-95	-	2098	
tin in dollars per ton		2107-96	-	2099	
tin in dollars per ton		2108-97	-	2100	
tin in dollars per ton		2109-98	-	2101	
tin in dollars per ton		2110-99	-	2102	
tin in dollars per ton		2111-00	-	2103	
tin in dollars per ton		2112-01	-	2104	
tin in dollars per ton		2113-02	-	2105	
tin in dollars per ton		2114-03	-	2106	
tin in dollars per ton		2115-04	-	2107	
tin in dollars per ton		2116-05	-	2108	
tin in dollars per ton		2117-06	-	2109	
tin in dollars per ton		2118-07	-	2110	
tin in dollars per ton		2119-08	-	2111	
tin in dollars per ton		2120-09	-	2112	
tin in dollars per ton		2121-10	-	2113	
tin in dollars per ton		2122-11	-	2114	
tin in dollars per ton		2123-12	-	2115	
tin in dollars per ton		2124-13	-	2116	
tin in dollars per ton		2125-14	-	2117	
tin in dollars per ton		2126-15	-	2118	
tin in dollars per ton		2127-16	-	2119	
tin in dollars per ton		2128-17	-	2120	
tin in dollars per ton		2129-18	-	2121	
tin in dollars per ton		2130-19	-	2122	
tin in dollars per ton		2131-20	-	2123	
tin in dollars per ton		2132-21	-	2124	
tin in dollars per ton					

new

APPOINTMENTS

Dual role for Croda director

Croda Polymers International: Mr R. A. Staff has become senior polymers director and director responsible for Croda Inks operations worldwide.

Ultramar: Mr John Du Cane and Mr Ronald Utiger have been appointed non-executive directors. Mr Du Cane is a non-executive director of Amatex; Mr Utiger is deputy chairman and managing director of the TIT Group.

MY Dart: Mr Charles Bruce has been made group financial director, continuing as company secretary.

S. Pearson and Son: Mr J. H. Hale will take up his appointment as managing director on September 1.

Edmont Holdings: Mr Kenneth Lindsay, former chairman of Croudace, has joined the board as non-executive deputy chairman. He will also be a part-time consultant to advise on expanding the group's house building.

Ransburg UK: Mr Brian Carter, company secretary, has been appointed general manager.

Mr Mike Hughes, above, head of personnel and staff relations of Anglia Television, has been appointed to the new post of general manager.

Mothercare Group: Mrs Rosemary Good becomes marketing director, Mr Bernard Grevatt store operations director and Mrs Sandra Lewis personnel director.

Electricity Consultative Council (North West): Mr R. D. Wilson has been reappointed chairman.

Esley-Masterton: Mr Andrew Satterly has been made managing director.

FRIENDS' PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of Members is to be held at The Glaziers Hall, 9 Montague Close, London Bridge, London, SE1 9DD on Wednesday 14th September 1983 at 12 noon when the following Resolution will be proposed as a SPECIAL RESOLUTION:

THAT in accordance with Section 13(2) of FRIENDS' PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE ACT 1975 the Rules of Friends' Provident Life Office be amended as follows:

By the deletion from Rule 34 of sub-paragraphs (3)(a) and (b) which state:

(a) In addition to the other requirements of this rule, a person who is not a Friend shall not be eligible for appointment as a director unless there are at least five directors who are Friends.

(b) In this paragraph, "Friend" means a person who is a member of the Religious Society of Friends commonly called Quakers.

AND

By the deletion from Rule 49 of provisions (a) and (b) thereof of which state:

Provided that:

(a) if all the directors who are Friends (as defined in rule 34) are present at the meeting or have previously to the meeting intimated in writing to the chairman or the secretary their vote on the question under consideration and their votes are unanimous and the question under consideration is one that in their unanimous opinion raises issues involving Friends' principles then the decision made shall be in accordance with such votes;

(b) if the directors present at the meeting when a decision is taken by the method prescribed in paragraph (a) of this proviso by a majority so resolve a statement of the facts and circumstances concerning the decision shall be made to the next general meeting.

If the foregoing special resolution is passed Rules 34 and 49 will then read as follows:

34. (1) The office of director shall, subject to paragraph (2) hereof, be held only by members.

(2) A person who is not a member may hold the office of director provided that if he does not become a member within two months of his appointment as director, he shall vacate his office.

48. Questions arising at a meeting of the directors shall be decided by a majority of votes (the chairman of the meeting in the case of an equality of votes to have a second or casting vote).

A member entitled to attend and vote at the above meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on his behalf and such proxy need not also be a Member of Friends' Provident Life Office. The instrument appointing a proxy, a specimen of which is set out in rule 30 of the Rules of Friends' Provident Life Office, must be deposited at Friends' Provident Life Office, Pixham End, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1QA, at least forty-eight hours before the time of the meeting. Proxy forms may be obtained on application to the Secretary.

Members intending to attend and vote personally at the meeting should be prepared to quote their policy number.

By Order of the Directors,
B.W. SWEETLAND, Secretary

FRIENDS' PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE
Pixham End, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1QA

HOWARD MACHINERY PLC

GROUP RESULTS FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDED APRIL 1983

(unaudited)

12 Months October 1982	8 Months April 1983	8 Months April 1982
£200	£200	£200
45,832 SALES	21,927	22,000
253 PROFIT (LOSS) BEFORE TAX	(146)	(519)

NOTES:

- During the first half of this year, the group maintained sales and improved operating performance despite no improvement in world agricultural machinery markets. The reduction in losses was achieved as a consequence of the major reorganisation undertaken over recent years and the market acceptance of new products, particularly within Europe where sales have again increased.
- In the United States, government grants to encourage farmers to reduce land under cultivation during the year continue to adversely affect demand. In both Australia and South Africa, the drought continued to limit sales over the period. The Australian company has been brought back to a more stable position although the market remains poor and unpredictable in the aftermath of the drought.
- The group's business is seasonal with the second half year producing better results than the first half. The current year should be no exception to this.
- Extraordinary costs in respect of the reorganisation in Australia, including the potential loss arising from the granting of an option over 49.5% of the Australian company, are estimated at £1.1 million. It is anticipated that the total of extraordinary costs for the year, including the Australian costs, will be significantly less than last year's charge of £2.3 million.

HOWARD

Oxford House, Oxford Street, Newbury, Berks. RG13 1JB

Wayne Lintott looks at the challenges facing Keith Wickenden's successor

Charting a new course at European Ferries

European Ferries, the group that owns Townsend Thoresen ferries, the port of Felixstowe and the Singer & Friedlander bank, has successfully weathered the immediate turbulence that came after the death last month of former Tory MP Mr Keith Wickenden, its flamboyant 50-year-old chairman. But what is the future for a company so closely identified with Mr Wickenden's at the entrepreneurial leading edge of the trend to privatization?

The group, at present capitalized at £200m, was immediately faced with two main questions: Would a predator use the period of uncertainty to mount a bid? And in which direction would a new boss take this, by now conglomerate, company?

European Ferries says it has not received "the faintest whisper" of a bid approach from any source. The two favourites, Trafigura House and Sterling Guarantee Trust, are both preoccupied with Pembridge and Oriental Steam Navigation.

Within three weeks important policy decisions will be disclosed internally to managers that will show them, at least, the planned future direction of the group.

It would be wrong to mistake the clear nervousness of Mr Ken Siddle, European Ferries' 47-year-old managing director and Mr Wickenden's successor as chairman, for any form of mental weakness. In his first interview on the business since taking over, Mr Siddle continuously paced his Kent office while chain-smoking.

But the pacing and smoking are more of a reflection of this speed of thought and the pressure placed on a shy man suddenly thrust into a high office.

Mr Siddle's unanimous appointment as chairman by the rest of the board - insiders said that he dealt with talk of introducing an outsider with the curt response "over my dead body" - facilitated a swift transfer of power that helped maintain City confidence in the company. He has been managing director for 10 years and has been in day-to-day charge for the last five. He became managing director when Mr Roland Wickenden, Keith's brother, died of heart attack in 1972.

He now runs a company with 7,500 employees and 165,000 shareholders. Unusually for a



Ken Siddle: Shy, reflective chain-smoker thrust into the limelight.

public company, the majority, 156,000 are small shareholders who hold just enough shares, 300, to become eligible for concessions on ferry fares.

This is an attractive perk. Some shipping analysts think it effectively adds 30 per cent to the annual dividend and means that once every four years shareholders can transport their car and family across the Channel free.

The company's business is concentrated into four trading areas: ferries, ports, property and banking. Over the last five years turnover has doubled to almost £200m.

Pre-tax profits were on course for a similar rise, but slipped sharply in 1981 as a result of a ferry price war with British Rail's Sealink.

Nevertheless, profits were back up to £30.7m last year and analysis expect £35.5m this year and then a sharp rise to £50m next year.

The share price has not performed as well, however. This year shares hit a low of 50p, when, ever before, Mr Wickenden's untimely death, the company would have been more vulnerable to a takeover attack than at a present speculatively supported level of 74p.

Shortly after Mr Wickenden's death, the shares touched 80p, with more than a million shares changed hands. There was one steady buyer whose identity has not yet reached the share register. That alone sustains bid hopes.

Mr Siddle makes clear his aversion to a takeover which

property, ports and ships, a ready reckoner figure looks to be 120p a share.

"I would be sorely disappointed at 120p," says Mr Siddle. He would not give the same answer when the figure was raised to 150p.

"Anyway," he added after a momentary pause, "we're worth a hell of a lot more than the Stock Exchange values us."

That question figured the issue suitably. Mr Siddle thinks that the present share price "grossly" undervalues European Ferries. Its 1982 accounts show assets per share at 80p, but there are a number of assets that the directors have not revalued for years.

Taking the work in progress and theoretical valuations of the

Some City murmurings have accompanied the group's entry into the American property market in some big moves over the last five years. Critics claim that too much money and time have been spent in the US to the detriment of British operations.

The biggest of these moves two years ago left European Ferries with big holdings in Denver and Atlanta.

The deals have not proved as successful as had been hoped and Mr Siddle admits to being very "unhappy" about the profit performance of the Denver holdings last year. He suggests the group will concentrate on British operations in the future.

European Ferries came out of the last war the accepted victor with an increased market share. There is no doubt he feels it would do so again.

He is actively looking at new ships with increased technology that dramatically cut down on manning. Felixstowe Port has proved a success - it is working fast out - but European Ferries is looking at new plans and investments.

They were recently made directors. They were not defensive appointments, Mr Siddle says.

And a look through the offer document of that deal shows why. Both men are contractually obliged to offer any share sales to European Ferries or to allow it to find a buyer if the company can't afford to acquire them.

They can sell only one million of their 35 million shares a year for the first few years and their rights are tied both to their own performance and that of the group as a whole.

"We have not lost our sense of direction and soon we will be able to show that is not the case," says Mr Siddle. There are some internal moves we are putting together. We have the right developments and we intend adding to them, and that includes acquisitions if a company suitably fits our criteria."

The company is obviously still piqued at the Government's veto on a bid for Sealink. "It is illogical not to let it have it. Particularly in view of its inefficiency and large debts (about £70m)." But Mr Siddle refuses to give up trying.

He dismissed the threat of another price war with Sealink in view of its planned privatization.

"I have no reason to assume they would not back me in a fight," Mr Siddle concludes. "In fact I know they would," he said opening a packet of cigarettes.

SIX MONTHS-1983

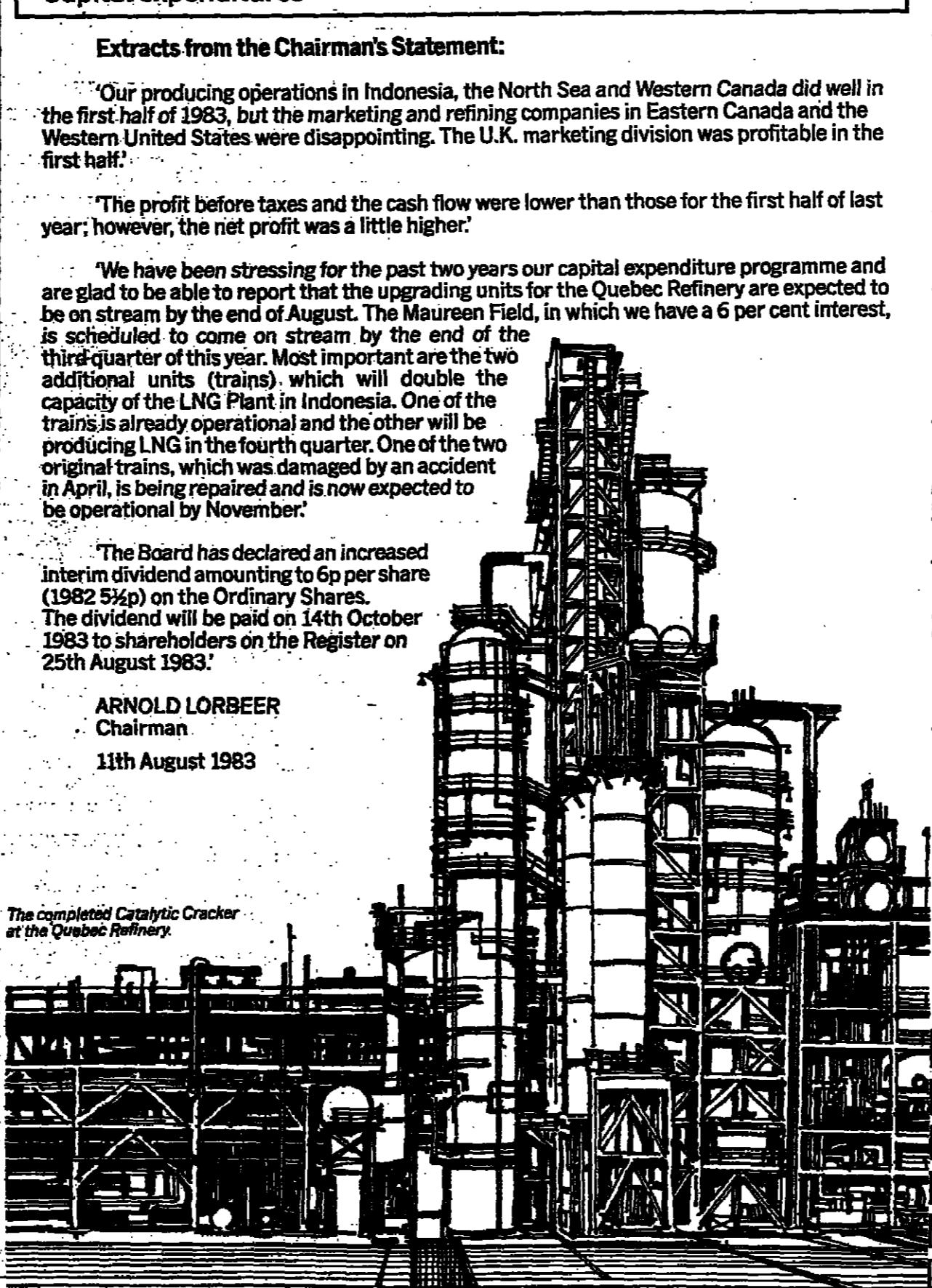
Ultramar

POISED FOR GROWTH

Review of Ultramar Group Financial Results and Operations

Summary of financial results

	First Six Months 1983 £ million	First Six Months 1982 £ million
Turnover	823.9	645.3
Cost of Sales	715.0	523.2
Gross profit	108.9	122.1
Distribution costs and administrative expenses	50.0	40.2
	58.9	81.9
Other operating income	17.1	16.3
Interest payable	76.0	98.2
	5.9	12.3
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	70.1	85.9
Taxation on profit on ordinary activities	22.5	39.4
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	47.6	46.5
Foreign exchange fluctuations - profit/(loss)	0.1	(2.5)
Net profit	47.7	44.0
Ordinary Shares dividends 1983 - Interim 6p per share	8.1	5.9
1982 - Final 9.5p per share	-	10.3
Advance Corporation Tax written off	4.8	2.6
	12.9	8.5
Earnings retained for the period	£38.4	£35.5
Earnings per Share	37.3p	38.9p
Principal translation and conversion exchange rates used by the Group are:		
30th June 1983	30th June 1982	31st December 1982
£1 equals US\$ 1.53	1.74	1.62
£1 equals Can\$ 1.88	2.24	1.99
Operating Results	First Six Months 1983	First Six Months 1982
Sales of oil (barrels per day)	196,000	170,500
Oil refined (barrels per day)	76,800	79,000
Oil produced (barrels per day)	8,600	9,200
Gas produced (thousands of cubic feet per day)	131,800	177,900
Gross wells drilled	55	85
Oil and gas wells completed (in which the Group has varying interests)	40	49



The completed Catalytic Cracker at the Quebec Refinery.

Ultramar
Morgan House, 1 Angel Court
London EC2R 7AU

For a copy of the full Review of Group Financial Results and Operations for the Six Months to 30th June 1983 please complete and return the coupon to the Company Secretary at the above address.

Name _____

Address _____



Royal Dutch/Shell Group of Companies

Results for First Half 1983

Net income of the Royal Dutch/Shell Group of Companies for the second quarter of 1983 was £621 million compared with £380 million in the corresponding period in 1982. Net income for the first half of the year was £1,129 million against £794 million for the first half of 1982. Calculated on the basis of estimated current cost of supplies, second quarter earnings would be £614 million compared with £494 million in the second quarter of 1982. Earnings on this basis for the first half of 1983 would be £1,333 million against £953 million in the same period of 1982 (see explanation below the segment earnings table).

The improvement in second quarter net income, when compared with the same quarter of 1982, arose largely in the oil and gas segment outside North America. The weakness of sterling against most major currencies in comparison with the same period in 1982 had a positive impact on Group sterling results.

Excluding Shell Oil and Shell Canada, and on an estimated current cost of supplies basis, there was a significant increase in the earnings of the exploration and production sector. This increase more than offset the deterioration in the manufacturing, marine and marketing sector, where the continuing intense market competition resulted in an erosion of proceeds exceeding the fall in crude oil and oil products acquisition costs. The chemicals segment reported a small profit compared with a loss a year ago. The metals segment continued to show losses, at a slightly increased level, whilst the coal segment continued to show a small profit. The nuclear sector gave rise to an exceptional loss of £36 million resulting from the write-off of the Barnwell (USA) reprocessing plant. Group net income benefited by £94 million following a re-assessment of certain provisions for taxation made in prior periods.

Shell Oil Company of the United States reported an increase of 3% in dollar earnings. This was amplified by the effect of weaker sterling against the dollar, resulting in the Group share of net income in sterling being 19% higher than a year ago. Shell Canada reported substantially lower dollar results attributable to the oil products segment and higher interest costs.

Capital expenditure and exploration expense at £2,229 million for the first half of the year was 4% below the corresponding period last year. Current assets net of current liabilities (excluding short-term debt, cash and short-term securities) declined in the first half of 1983 by £262 million, due principally to the reduction in inventory volumes and crude oil costs. Over the same period long-term debt increased by £111 million whilst short-term debt decreased by £50 million; cash and short-term securities stood at £5.0 billion after a rise of £945 million over the last six months. The long-term debt ratio remained unchanged at 26%.

Following the March 14 OPEC agreement on production quotas and the new reduced official price structure, spot prices for both crude oil and oil products recovered over the quarter. Along with the improvement in economic indicators in the USA and some other major industrial countries, there are indications that, in aggregate, Free World oil demand trends are no longer falling.

August 11, 1983

Statement of income

	Second Quarter		First Half	
	1982	1983	1982	1983
£ million				
Revenues				
Sales proceeds and other operating revenues	13,210	14,661	26,183	29,591
less Sales taxes, excise duties and similar levies	1,936	2,252	3,722	4,339
	11,274	12,409	22,461	25,252
Share of earnings of associated companies	156	134	385	382
Interest and other income	134	133	258	254
	11,564	12,675	23,104	25,888
Costs and expenses				
Purchases and operating expenses	8,483	9,064	16,947	18,630
Selling, general and administrative expenses	840	965	1,612	1,883
Exploration	205	199	372	403
Research and development	72	87	141	175
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	399	508	776	1,045
Currency exchange losses/(gains)	33	39	55	(52)
Interest expense	182	140	347	313
Taxation	896	970	1,926	2,226
Income applicable to minority interests	74	83	134	136
	11,184	12,055	22,310	24,759
Net income for the period	380	621	794	1,129
Parent Companies' share in Group net income:				
per Ordinary Share				
Royal Dutch	N.l.	4.11	6.20	8.64
US dollar equivalents	\$	1.56	2.22	3.32
(based on 269,037,044 shares of N.l. 10 outstanding at June 30, 1983)				4.01
Shell Transport	pence	13.13	21.48	27.43
(based on 1,104,834,414 shares of 25p outstanding at June 30, 1983)				39.05
New York Share equivalents	\$	0.93	1.33	1.99
(one New York Share = four 25p Shares)				2.41
Other financial data				
£ million				
Cash and short-term securities, June 30		3,303	5,017	
Long-term debt, June 30		6,505	7,622	

Financial data

	Second Quarter		First Half	
	1982	1983	1982	1983
£ million				
Source and use of funds (see note 2)				
Funds generated				
Net income, including minority share	454	704	928	1,265
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	399	508	776	1,045
Provision for deferred taxation	200	125	410	632
Current assets and current liabilities (excluding short-term debt, cash and short-term securities)	54	375	101	262
Proceeds from sale of assets	58	48	186	97
Dividends of associated companies more /less than earnings	9	53	(1)	15
Other	75	55	121	22
	1,248	1,868	2,531	3,338
Funds applied				
Capital expenditure	1,054	1,011	1,957	1,826
Capitalized leases	27	2	29	3
Net investments in associated companies	127	77	193	143
Dividends paid: to Parent Companies to minority interests	394	425	394	425
	32	25	59	57
	1,634	1,540	2,632	2,454
Surplus/(deficit) before financing transactions				
(385)	328	(101)	884	
Net increase/(decrease) in: Long-term debt	192	(42)	264	111
Short-term debt	150	160	214	(50)
	(43)	446	377	945
Increase/(decrease) in cash and short-term securities				
Capital expenditure and exploration expense – by industry segment				
Capital expenditure				
Oil and gas: Rights and concessions	65	182	176	236
Exploration and production	448	386	856	781
Manufacturing	211	134	357	259
Marine	7	12	9	16
Marketing	94	118	145	184
Total oil and gas	825	832	1,543	1,476
Chemicals	103	94	178	178
Coal	34	11	73	23
Metals	70	50	127	111
Research	12	18	22	25
Other	10	6	14	13
	1,054	1,011	1,957	1,826
Exploration expense				
Oil and gas	195	183	356	380
Coal	4	1	6	4
Metals	6	5	10	9
	205	198	372	403
Total capital expenditure and exploration expense – by geographical area				
Europe	344	336	617	615
Other Eastern Hemisphere	258	209	479	410
USA	447	485	891	840
Other Western Hemisphere	203	168	333	348
Marine (oil and gas, and coal)	7	12	9	16
	1,259	1,210	2,329	2,229

Earnings from operations by industry segment

Oil and gas

Excluding Shell Oil and Shell Canada, earnings in the second quarter 1983 from oil and gas exploration and production activities at £339 million were 45% above the 1982 level. The improvement was due to increased equity crude oil production, lower exploration expense, higher natural gas sales and the strength of the US dollar against sterling. Net equity crude oil production amounted to 839,000 barrels daily compared with 721,000 barrels daily in the second quarter 1982, reflecting increases in production mainly from Nigeria and the UK North Sea. The Group share of net production in the UK North Sea was 254,000 barrels daily, which was lower than the immediately preceding quarter due to scheduled maintenance. Natural gas sales volumes rose by 20% compared with the second quarter of 1982, due principally to the build-up of Brent gas production (UK), deliveries of Malaysian LNG to Japan and increased sales in the Netherlands.

Shell Oil's oil and gas exploration and production dollar earnings increased by 8% over the corresponding period last year, largely due to increased natural gas prices and lower Windfall Profit Tax. In contrast, crude oil prices were lower and natural gas production decreased by 12%, reflecting weak demand. Shell Canada's earnings in this sector were higher than a year ago, due to higher crude oil and natural gas prices and lower exploration and pre-development expenses.

Excluding Shell Oil and Shell Canada, reported earnings from the manufacturing, marine and marketing sector increased from £63 million in the second quarter 1982 to £134 million in the corresponding period in 1983. On the estimated current cost of supplies basis, however, there was a deterioration with earnings of £125 million in the second quarter 1983 compared with £205 million a year ago. Intense competition in major markets and the negative effect of a strong dollar contributed to a compression of current margins, with proceeds falling faster than average crude oil and oil products acquisition costs, between the second quarters of 1982 and 1983. Total oil products sales volumes remained virtually unchanged.

Shell Oil's underlying oil products earnings improved from \$70 million in the second quarter of 1982 (which excludes \$30 million relating to the sale of the Ciniza refinery) to \$87 million in 1983, as margins improved. Contributing to this improvement was a decline in supply cost exceeding the fall in selling prices, and the impact of higher utilization of refinery conversion units and the introduction of new West Coast facilities. Products sales volumes were unchanged. Shell Canada's oil products earnings declined substantially, reflecting severe price competition.

Chemicals

Excluding Shell Oil and Shell Canada, and on an estimated current cost of supplies basis, chemicals showed earnings of £7 million in the second quarter 1983 compared with loss of £8 million last year, reflecting a slight improvement in profitability in the major European countries. Petrochemicals sales volumes were 14% above the level of the corresponding quarter last year and total proceeds increased by a similar percentage. Although some improvement in margins was achieved by operating cost reductions and improved plant loading, prices for many products remained weak.

Shell Oil's chemicals earnings at \$5 million for the second quarter 1983 were essentially the same as last year, with low demand exerting downward pressure on prices and despite lower feedstock costs and higher sales volumes.

Other industry segments

On a Group-wide basis the coal segment reported earnings of £1 million compared with £6 million a year ago. Sales tonnages were higher than in the second quarter 1982, but the impact of very low prices gave rise to trading losses, which were offset by taxation adjustments. The metals segment losses for the second quarter of £23 million, compared with losses of £17 million a year ago, include a write-off attributable to the withdrawal of nickel operations in Australia and reflect the continuing weak market demand, particularly for bauxite/alumina. The improvement in the non-sectorized corporate items from a loss of £111 million in 1982 to a loss of £8 million in 1983 largely reflects a re-assessment of certain tax provisions.

An interim report by Royal Dutch Petroleum Company and The "Shell" Transport and Trading Company, p.l.c. on the results of the Royal Dutch/Shell Group of Companies, in which their interests are 60% and 40% respectively.

Notes

Financial

1 Accounting policies for the first half 1983 are unchanged from those set out in the Royal Dutch and Shell Transport 1982 Annual Reports (pages 32 and 33).

2 'Source and use of funds' reflects movements in funds of Group companies as measured in their own currencies, translated into sterling at average rates of exchange for the quarters in question, and therefore excludes currency translation differences.

Under both 'Source and use of funds' and 'Other financial data', long-term debt includes capitalized lease obligations and also the short-term part of each (i.e. that part repayable within one year). Long-term debt in 'Source and use of funds' represents new borrowings net of repayments and currency exchange differences.

3 In the segment earnings table, associated companies' net interest expenses, previously included in individual industry segments, is now included in Corporate items. 1982 figures have been restated.

4 For illustrative purposes, to establish the division of income between Royal Dutch and Shell Transport, the percentage of net income applicable to them for the year 1982 has been used: Royal Dutch 61.8%; Shell Transport 38.2% (see 1982 Annual Report, page 37). Notes 2 and 3 to the financial statements of the Royal Dutch/Shell Group of Companies.

Royal Dutch dividends are translated from the underlying sterling at average rates for the quarters in question. Royal Dutch and Shell Transport dollars are translations of the respective underlying dividends or sterling at average rates for the quarters in question.

Operational data

World athletics championships: event is too long and lacks selective entry

High-voltage charge generated by Lewis prevents anti-climax

From David Miller, Helsinki

At the halfway stage of the first world athletics championships here it remains arguable whether the sport has gained or lost by detaching the main event of its four-yearly calendar from the Olympic Games. All that is certain is the extent to which the Moscow Olympics were diluted by the somewhat hollow electioneering gesture of President Carter in preventing the American athletes from taking part.

It is the Americans, or more accurately one particular American, Carl Lewis, who has so far saved the championships from being something of an anti-climax. Wednesday was the first day that the event really took off. It is too long, for the sake of getting seven days of TV and sponsorship money, and too lacking in selective restriction on entries, for the sake of generosity to competitors and countries who have no business at world championships. Without the high voltage excitement generated by Lewis running through the stadium on two days, the championships would have been little different from the European (the southern hemisphere having contributed minimally).

It remains to be seen on Sunday whether a 1,500 metres invigorated by an American, Scott, two little known Africans, Aouita from Morocco and Cheruiyot from Kenya, and an American South African, Maree, plus a marathon containing that unbending Goliath, de Castella, can close the championships on a level in keeping with expectations. The pity

is that Lewis decided not to contest Sunday's 200 metres in which the favourite is Mennea, of Italy, from whom Lewis ran away so breathtakingly in Wednesday's relay world

qualification level has to be the priority for Rome in 1987. The IAAF should surely look at the idea of a two-tier system: a standard rather higher than the present level, which would entitle any country to two, or possibly three, competitors and an elite qualifying standard within range of the world record, the achievement of which would entitle any competitor to automatic acceptance, no matter how many from his country had qualified thus.

The first four days have shown is that when athletics is not the showpiece sport of the Olympics, enhanced by the 90-odd years of legend and tradition, then unless records are being broken, it can seem rather mundane to all but the addicted specialist, unworthy of its commercial and showbiz promotion.

The Olympic champion, by comparison, does not have to worry about the speed he has run or the distance he has jumped or thrown. Merely being Olympic champion has a cache that is indelible. But when a great athlete wins a world title here in less than his widely acclaimed potential – such as Moses and Cameron have done in the 400 metres hurdles and 400 metres – then however great they are there is bound to be a mood of *déjà vu*.

This is the price of 10 years or more of intensive emphasis on record breaking, and what these championships will have done more than anything, I suspect, is to prove again that by its very nature athletics and its foremost exponents cannot withstand overexposure as can the ball-bitting golfer, tennis player and cricketer.

In addition, as I suggested last Saturday before the opening, the qualifying standards have been nowhere near severe enough, allowing nonentities to clutter the frame.

If the world championships are to have the significance intended, the

wealth champion, who has been marginally overshadowed by those two other British champions until last year, is modest and low key about his prospects. He admits that there are other athletes here, such as Daley Thompson, who train much harder than he.

Almost every forecast you read, certainly in the English-speaking world, has some formation of Ovett, Steve Scott and Cram for medals, but Cram insists: "On the day, it will be the guy who gets it right".

Cram denies the suggestion that Scott cannot take the pressure of a championship, pointing out that he has yet to run in one, and feels the American has geared himself correctly to be at peak form. He knows that Aouita is perhaps one of the fastest in the field, and thinks this will be a fast race.

Cram believes he can win if he comes through the semi-finals unscathed, which is also my opinion. I fancy Scott's strength will get him the silver but that Ovett, under the pressure of three consecutive days racing against a background of breakdowns over two laps, may struggle to take the bronze from one of the Africans or Maree.

Everyone is waiting, of course, for the decision this morning by Thompson on whether he will seek to add a fourth to his trio of golds in Olympics, European and Commonwealth. Undoubtedly his groin strain has set back his training and like a proud champion he does not want to go out there against Jürgen Hingsen, the West German, who has taken back his world record, without believing he can justify himself.

The European and Commonwealth champion, who has been

improving steadily over the past two or three weeks, that Gateshead 800 metre win over Coe has increased his confidence, and that he is not burned up by too much racing this season. His earlier problems have obviously been of some concern and he says: "I think my main problem is the question of three races in three days, especially what is likely to be a really hard semi-final, and I'll have a better idea about the final when I see how I come out of the semi".

The European and Commonwealth



Cram seems to be pondering one of his keenest rivals Ovett (inset) as he prepares for the 1500 metres in Helsinki

Moroccan driven by a burning ambition sweats it out in the midday sun

From Pat Butcher

In the land of the midnight sun, the midday sun has not been doing too badly recently. Said Aouita trudged through the end of a midday training session at the athletes' village on the lake at Dipoli, not far from his residence. "It's hotter in Morocco," Aouita said, by way of explaining his choice of training time.

One of the pleasures of these championships has been to see little known athletes with the potential to get to the top of the world. Aouita, though, is already top of the world this year, in one of the best documented events the 1,500 metres, yet he has managed to remain practically unknown.

The biggest reference to him in Britain this season was that he did not turn up for a 1,500 metres against Sebastian Coe in Paris after running the fastest time in the world this year, 3min 32.54sec in Florence in June.

The time alone suggests that Aouita should be taking seriously but the manner of his achievement is even more indicative of the danger he will be to Steve Ovett, Steve Cram, Steve Maree, Steve Scott et al.

At the 1,000 metres mark in 2min 27sec Graham Williamson was with Aouita and 3min 32.7sec was all that was expected. Then Aouita moved on and ran the last 500 metres in 6.6sec. Williamson, who finished 15 metres behind, was astonished.

"I didn't think anyone could run away from me like that," he said.

Aouita relates that he never intended to run in Paris after a slight

from the organizers the previous year.

"I wanted to beat Ovett in 1982. I was world 3:34, but was told that I wasn't good enough. That upset me so much that I didn't train for a month. This year they announced that I was number one. I simply returned to my roots."

Aouita, Mohamed, Raschid, the Moroccan middle distance coach, confirmed is the biggest sporting hero in the country. He was born in Kenitra, the eldest of four brothers. The family now lives in Fez, and the three brothers, 14, 16, and 18 years of age, are preparing to emulate Said. Khalid was fourth in the Arab junior cross country championship in March. "In two years he will be ready to do something big, but the best of all is the 14 year old," Aouita said. "He is built like the Brazilian, Coe, and is really going to set the world alight."

Aouita has recently moved to Florence to be with his adviser, Enrico Dionisi, whom he likened to Andy Norman, the England team manager and Ovett's confidante. Aouita's move to Italy followed originally gone on a scholarship from Morocco to the National Institute for Sport in Paris.

After two years he moved south to find some sun and a part time job in Marignane, the oil terminal and airport near to Marseilles. But he puts out he achieved success, "I was going to France. That sounded like a legacy of too many French journalists suggesting the contrary. He had run 3min 37sec for 1,500 metres before leaving Morocco.

De Castella running hot

Helsinki (Reuter) – Robert de Castella expressed his anger yesterday over the starting time of the men's marathon which is scheduled for 2.00 local time on Sunday. He said that early morning or evening, and not during the afternoon heat would be the best time to begin the event.

The Australian, who is the

silver medallist in the absence of Alberto Salazar, also complained that the Olympic Games marathon, in Los Angeles next year, will start at 5.00 a.m. and the world record will be broken.

• Greta Waitz and Mary Decker

spoke up yesterday for the campaign to introduce races for women over 5,000 metres and 10,000 metres at the Olympic Games next year.

Miss Decker, the 3,000 metres world champion, and Miss Waitz, the women's marathon gold medal winner, voiced their opinions at a press conference at the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California filed a suit in Los Angeles calling for the two distances to be added to the Olympic programme.

Miss Decker said: "Women should have the 10,000 and the 5,000 instead of the 3,000. If women wish to run a longer distance they have to go for the marathon and there's a very big gap between the 3,000 and the marathon."

• Finland's athletes heritage is

celebrated outside the Olympic Stadium in the form of a bronze statue and an imposing tower. The statue is of the father of Finnish athletics, Paavo Nurmi who broke 20 world records and won nine Olympic gold medals.

Clubs fly home top competitors

A vocal labour of love is muted by limitations

From Nicholas Harding

The British athletes may be complaining about their daily expenses allowance here but there is one ex parte Englishman who is working full-time for nothing in the Olympic Stadium.

The league leader, Birchfield, are spending £250 to bring back the Commonwealth hammer champion, Bob Weir, for the final division one match at Stretford tomorrow. Weir competes in the discus and hammer events.

Birchfield have a lead of 60 points after three matches.

Birchfield's main challenger, Harington, is bringing back two athletes, the triple jumper, John Pugh, and the hammer thrower, Matt Milne.

Both clubs will be without some of their leading athletes. Track competitors, Phil Brown and Ainsley Bennett, of Birchfield will still be in Helsinki, and Harington will miss the 400 metres hurdles, Gary Oakes, the sprinter, Mike McFarlane, and the 400 metres relay, Claude Moseley.

Medals table

United States	Gold	Silver	Bronze
East Germany	5	4	5
West Germany	3	4	3
USSR	2	2	0
Czechoslovakia	2	0	0
Poland	1	0	0
Italy	1	1	0
Denmark	1	0	0
Japan	1	0	0
Norway	1	0	0
Sweden	0	0	0
Brasil	0	1	0
Australia	0	0	0
Canada	0	0	0
Bulgaria	0	0	1

• 8.00: Men's decathlon, 100m

8.10: Women's javelin, qualifying

8.20: Men's 100m, heats

8.30: Men's 200m, heats

8.40: Women's 100m, heats

8.50: Men's 400m, heats

8.55: Men's 800m, heats

9.00: Women's 100m, heats

9.10: Women's 200m, heats

9.20: Men's 100m, heats

9.30: Women's 400m, heats

9.40: Men's 400m, heats

9.50: Women's 800m, heats

10.00: Men's 1500m, heats

10.10: Women's 1500m, heats

10.20: Men's 5000m, heats

10.30: Women's 1500m, heats

10.40: Men's 10,000m, heats

10.50: Women's 10,000m, heats

11.00: Men's 50m, heats

11.10: Women's 50m, heats

11.20: Men's 100m, heats

11.30: Women's 100m, heats

11.40: Men's 200m, heats

11.50: Women's 200m, heats

11.55: Men's 400m, heats

11.58: Women's 400m, heats

12.00: Men's 800m, heats

12.05: Women's 800m, heats

12.10: Men's 1500m, heats

12.15: Women's 1500m, heats

12.20: Men's 5000m, heats

12.25: Women's 5000m, heats

12.30: Men's 10,000m, heats

12.35: Women's 10,000m, heats

12.40: Men's 50m walk, heats

12.45: Women's 50m walk, heats

12.50: Men's 100m walk, heats

12.55: Women's 100m walk, heats

12.58: Men's 200m walk, heats

12.59: Women's 200m walk, heats

12.59: Men's 400m walk, heats

12.59: Women's 400m walk, heats

12.59: Men's 800m walk, heats

12.59: Women's 800m walk, heats

12.59: Men's 1500m walk, heats

12.59: Women's 1500m walk, heats

12.59: Men's 5000m walk, heats

12.59: Women's 5000m walk, heats

12.59: Men's 10,000m walk, heats

12.59: Women's 10,000m walk, heats

12.59: Men's 50m sprint, heats

12.59: Women's 50m sprint, heats

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 **CatFax AM**, News, weather, sport and traffic information, available to everyone with a television set.

6.30 **Broadcast Test**: presented by Sue Cook and Andrew Harvey. Includes news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; sport at 6.45, 7.15 and 8.15; tonight's TV (between 7.30 and 7.50); Morning papers (7.30 and 8.30); The 100 Club, first event in Daley Thompson's decathlon bid in Helsinki, will be screened sometime between 8.00 and 9.00.

8.00 **Agaton Six Part Three**. Kenneth Williams supplies all the voices (r); 8.25 **Jackson**: Rula Lenska reads the Polish fairy tale called 'The Trumpeter of Cracow'; 8.40 **The Womble**; 8.45 **Why Don't You...? 7**: leisure ideas for teenagers; 10.10 **Closedown**.

10.55 **Cricket/Athletics**: The second day's play in the Third Test at Lord's, and, at about 12.15, the Athletics Championships in Helsinki (further coverage at 1.45 and at 9.25).

1.05 **News After Noon**: with Richard Whitmore and Vivien Cropper; 1.27 **Financial Report**. And news headlines; 1.20 **Five-bobs**.

1.45 **The First World Athletics Championships**: Daley Thompson completes the first day's events in the decathlon. Other events include the Men's 50,000m walk (at 2.00) and the Men's Javelin (at 4.30).

5.20 **News**: with Jan Leeming; 5.40 **South East at Six**.

6.00 **The First World Athletics Championships**: We see the 1,500m heats in which Steve Ovett and Steve Cram form a powerful British challenge.

7.35 **Best of the West**: Sam feels pangs of jealousy when Elvira's former fiance turns up, hoping to win her back. A comedy western.

8.00 **Comic Roots**: The first in a new series of documentaries about the early lives of comedians. Tonight: Michael Palin (see Choice).

8.30 **Summer Party**: Russell Harty, the astronomer (Patrick Moore), and Ruth (Joey) Davis Lee Travis join the crowds at Longleat on Investors' Day. The exhibits range from the deadly serious to the outrageously funny.

9.00 **News** with Michael Buerk. And weather prospects for the weekend.

9.25 **The First World Athletics Championships**: David Icke introduces highlights from today's big events, including Daley Thompson's decathlon attempt.

9.40 **Shannon**: The vicious murder of a politician bears all the signs of a terrorist execution, and Shannon's friend Binky James is sprung from jail to help investigate the killing. With Kevin Dobson and Charles Fields.

10.30 **Seconds Out**: Boxing comedy series. Pete Dods (Robert Lindsay) is about to box for the British middleweight title. Everything at the camp is going well – except for the fact that Pete won't stay in it. (1).

11.05 **Film: Someone Behind the Door** (1971): French thriller, with English dialogue, about a psychiatrist (Anthony Perkins) who plans to take his revenge when his wife (Julie Christie) takes a lover. A patient (Charles Bronson) provides him with the perfect vehicle. Directed by Nicholas Caesar. Ends at 12.45am.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.5kHz/265m; 108.9kHz/275m; Radio 2: 68.5kHz/433m; 90.9kHz/260m; Radio 3: 121.5kHz/247m; VHF 80-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m; VHF 92.95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m; VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

ENTERTAINMENTS

CO. Most credit cards accepted for admissions but not at the box office. Where necessary, book in advance. Box office open 9am until 6pm, except London Entertainment Areas.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 5255 5261-2 5262-3 5268 5270-1 5272-3 5274-5 5276-7 5278-9 5281-3 5283-5 5285-7 5287-9 5289-1 5291-3 5293-5 5295-7 5297-9 5299-1 5301-3 5303-5 5305-7 5307-9 5309-1 5311-3 5313-5 5315-7 5317-9 5319-1 5321-3 5323-5 5325-7 5327-9 5329-1 5331-3 5333-5 5335-7 5337-9 5339-1 5341-3 5343-5 5345-7 5347-9 5349-1 5351-3 5353-5 5355-7 5357-9 5359-1 5361-3 5363-5 5365-7 5367-9 5369-1 5371-3 5373-5 5375-7 5377-9 5379-1 5381-3 5383-5 5385-7 5387-9 5389-1 5391-3 5393-5 5395-7 5397-9 5399-1 5401-3 5403-5 5405-7 5407-9 5409-1 5411-3 5413-5 5415-7 5417-9 5419-1 5421-3 5423-5 5425-7 5427-9 5429-1 5431-3 5433-5 5435-7 5437-9 5439-1 5441-3 5443-5 5445-7 5447-9 5449-1 5451-3 5453-5 5455-7 5457-9 5459-1 5461-3 5463-5 5465-7 5467-9 5469-1 5471-3 5473-5 5475-7 5477-9 5479-1 5481-3 5483-5 5485-7 5487-9 5489-1 5491-3 5493-5 5495-7 5497-9 5499-1 5501-3 5503-5 5505-7 5507-9 5509-1 5511-3 5513-5 5515-7 5517-9 5519-1 5521-3 5523-5 5525-7 5527-9 5529-1 5531-3 5533-5 5535-7 5537-9 5539-1 5541-3 5543-5 5545-7 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